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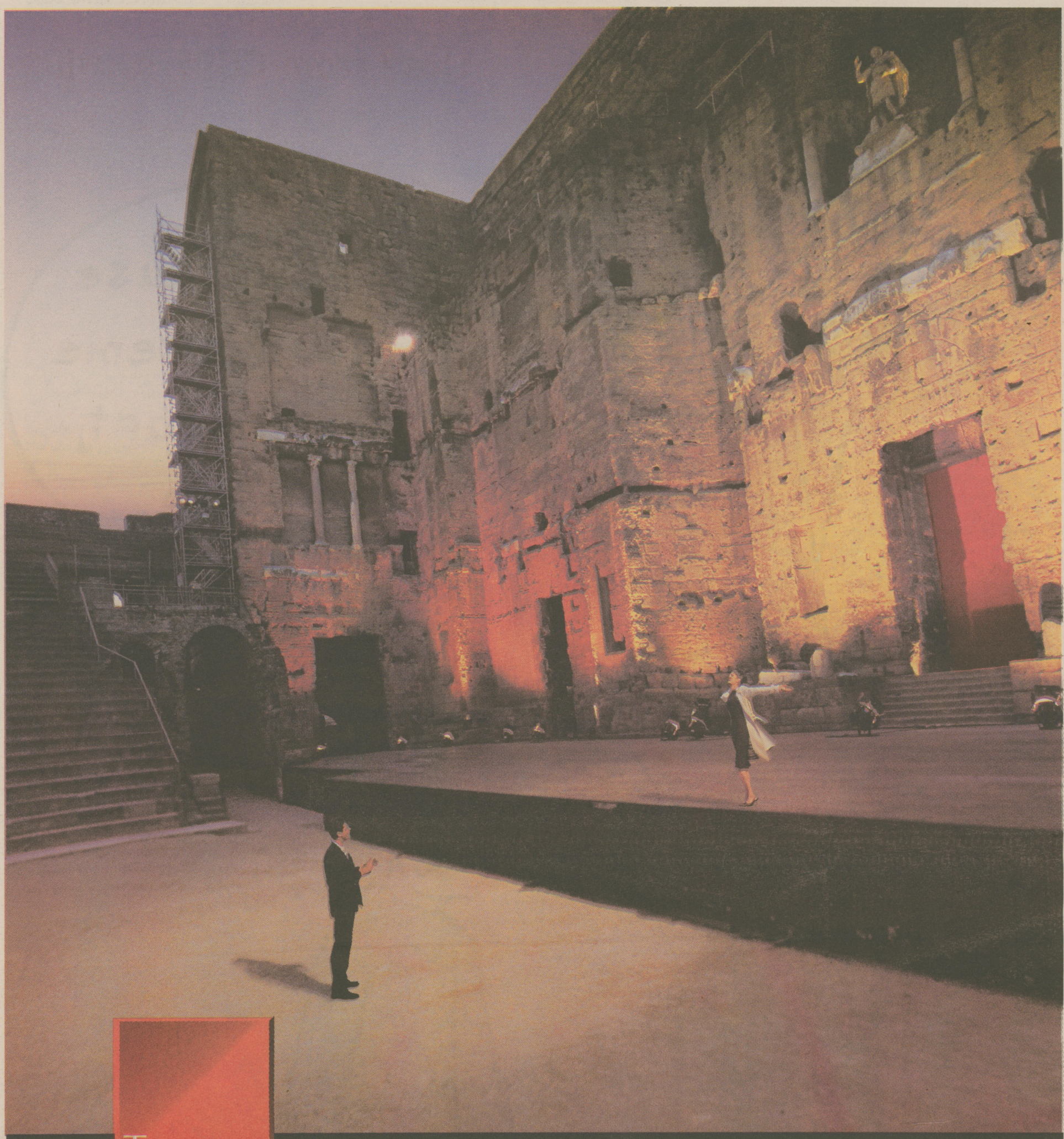
NOT Saddam: Athletic support - Canadian & American style

by Luke Lin

pages 12 & 13



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Strikes votes cast: UVic could close from CUPE conflict

by Suzanne Beaubien

Two unions at UVic have voted in favour of striking, should their contract negotiations with the university break down in the coming weeks.

On Feb. 20, both CUPE local 951 (the Office, Technical and Daycare workers' union) and local 917, (the Trades, Janitorial, Housing, Food and Conference Services workers' union) cast their ballots in favour of a strike.

Local 951, representing "inside" workers at UVic, voted 85 per cent in favour of a strike, while 88 per cent of "outside" workers from Local 917 voted to support a decision to picket.

Though a mandate to strike doesn't necessarily mean either union will walk out, it does give negotiators the power to decide one way or the other, said Kevin Galichon, CUPE staff representative.

Galichon said the union must issue a 72-hour notice to both workers and the university if they decide to strike. Likewise, the university must notify the union 72 hours in advance of a lockout.

What would a strike on campus look like? Ian Cameron, president of Local 4163, the sessional instructors' union, said unions could hold rotating pickets around specific buildings that would change from day to day, or block entrances to campus entirely.

"It's not just the union that makes that decision," he said, explaining that if the university refuses to let picketing employees on campus for a rotating strike, striking workers could be forced to picket on public property off campus.

The result would be a campus-wide picket.

He said the tactic decided on by unions will likely be closely guarded until put into action.

"I can't speak for the unions as to what their game plan could be," he said.

Should one union decide to strike, the others have the right to respect a legal picket line, said Galichon. He said it is important to note that any action on the part of the union or the university is purely speculative at this point. Though bargaining talks prevent union representatives from speaking to the press, Galichon said he is "optimistic" the unions will get settlements.

Since the strike vote, inside workers have appointed a mediator from the Labour Relations Board to assist in talks. Once a mediator has been requested, neither side can issue a strike notice or a lockout until they "book out," which moves the mediator out of the process, said Galichon.

Sessional lecturers are also currently negotiating their contract, which expired in August 2002.

Their representative, Cameron, from the faculty of education, said they haven't taken their strike vote yet. He said the main issues under negotiation are wage increases and unionized employees' pension plan.

"They've not gotten tremendously far," Cameron said, explaining the other locals have been in negotiation for about a year.

"They were told there'd be no wage increase. You can forget about it," he said.

Unionized employees currently have a refined benefit plan, which means they receive a guaranteed lump-sum payment when they retire. When the stock market does well, the university isn't required to contribute to this fund, but when the market does poorly, as has been the case lately, they're expected to help subsidize the fund.

The university is currently demanding that CUPE help subsidize the fund. The union has rejected this outright, which Cameron said helped to fuel the strike vote.

"It was overwhelmingly in support of strike," he said. However, he added that "all is not lost," since negotiations are still taking place.

Doug Sprenger, president of Local 951, said the union wants to reach a settlement, and has no wish to hinder classes or exams.

"We're not interested in disrupting the students' term," he said.

Drug company pays for seminar on women and depression at UVic

by Stefan Currie-Roberts and Chris Willey

UVic's Division of Continuing Studies is drawing criticism for allowing pharmaceutical giant GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), makers of the popular anti-depressant Paxil, to fund an on-campus seminar on women and depression March 11.

The Continuing Medical Education seminar, attended by health professionals such as doctors, nurses, and specialists, has been alleged to have a pro-drug bias, downplaying possible side effects and treatment alternatives.

Last December, Alan Cassels, an independent drug policy analyst, and Janet Currie, member of the international Benzodiazepine Awareness Network, took issue with this apparent conflict of interest and wrote a letter to the Health Sciences program director, Dr. Faith Collins, describing the possible dangers of allowing a company with financial interests in medical treatment to subsidize a seminar on depression.

The letter likens the issue to allowing petroleum giant Shell to fund a seminar on the effects of global warming, and warns that the university's reputation could be tarnished. The letter received no official response, and when Currie telephoned Collins she was told the issue would be taken to their advisory committee meeting in April, a month after the seminar takes place.

Cassels said he feels the integrity of Continuing Medical Education is at stake. "If you don't challenge these things, it'll go on and on," Cassels said. "These drug companies are not in the non-profit business."

Dr. Collins disagrees, maintaining that no conflict of interest exists. She argued that GlaxoSmithKline merely receives a thank-you note at the end of the seminar.

"Prominent scholars cannot be afforded without subsidies from outside the university," said Collins. "Continuing Studies could not cover all the costs of putting on seminars like this without assistance from companies like GlaxoSmithKline."

But Cassels said financial need doesn't justify the funding of academic seminars by drug companies.

"If the university says it is not able to fund the seminar without the help of the pharmaceuticals, then it should not be doing it at all," he said. He also suggested GlaxoSmithKline might check out the keynote speaker for any bias against the pharmaceutical industry before paying an honorarium and travel expenses for the seminar.

Currie and Cassels both said GlaxoSmithKline manufactures anti-depressants commonly used to treat the disorders that will be discussed at seminar. Collins confirms this, but notes that speakers are not required to promote the company's drug. Collins further noted that the keynote speaker, Dr. Shaila Misri, professor of psychiatry and obstetrics/gynecology at the University of British Columbia, would not even agree to do the talk if GlaxoSmithKline required her to only promote their drug.

Cassels said both drug and non-drug treatment strategies for these health problems will likely be discussed at the seminar, but "the punch-line might be that the non-drug strategy might not work."

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Students Against War take on Turpin

by Jeff Andrew

On Monday, March 10, members of the campus group Students Against War (SAW) met with UVic President David Turpin, asking him to present a motion to the Board of Governors opposing war in Iraq.

"We were basically asking him, would the university support [the motion]?" said SAW member Erik Haensel.

The motion the group proposed would state that the university opposes any military solution to the situation in Iraq, even if the UN Security Council passes a resolution approving war. Turpin replied that any official position taken by the university, either for or against the war, would interfere with teachers' ability to present a balanced range of views.

"What he made clear was that the university and the Board of Governors couldn't take a position, because it would impinge on an open, educated environment," said Haensel. "It's tough, because we see war as something that prevents people from being taught."

Instead, Turpin suggested the group present their motion to the university Senate, which would have more freedom in taking a specific stance.

SAW also asked Turpin for funding from the President's office to sponsor certain projects. After a gentle reminder that Vic-U, an interfaculty course union, received $2,000 directly from Turpin last year to attend a mock NATO meeting in Toronto, Turpin agreed that funding might be available, should SAW bring him a specific proposal.

"With the NATO meeting, he was supporting something that was politically charged," said Haensel. "We felt that supporting Students Against War was less politically charged, and if anything would balance the NATO perspective."

SAW is a registered club that receives funding from the UVSS. The club formed last November to facilitate on-campus groups who oppose aggression and to create a friendly environment for discussion of alternatives to war. Since then, they've held various speaking events and fundraisers, shown films and organized the March 5 Walkout Against the War.

"Students Against War has a very strong presence on campus," said Haensel. "We educate students on current and relevant issues, through speakers and workshops."

In February, the Victoria City Council passed a resolution expressing opposition to any military action by the United States not authorized by the UN Security Council.

"We've never shied away from taking a position on social issues," said City Councillor Rob Fleming. "A war in Iraq will literally affect the whole world."

SAW failed to elicit the same decisive response from university administration.

"I'd hoped to get a position from President Turpin," said Haensel. "We wanted him to either support the motion, or say he wouldn't. He didn't really do either."

Overall, however, Haensel said he was happy with the outcome of the meeting.

"He opened the door for us to bring him proposals for funding," Haensel said. "He did seem sincere."

Asked why groups like SAW are important at universities, Haensel stressed the necessity of education in the modern world.

"A lot of things have happened in the history of the twentieth century because people didn't understand what was going on," he said. "But Martin Luther King said, 'Silence Is Betrayal.' We have to understand the issues if we're going to stand up for them."

Students armed with dialogue

by Suzanne Beaubien

The 40th anniversary of the UN's declaration against racial discrimination will be celebrated at UVic March 20 with a lecture series to be held in Cinecenta.

"Preventing Crimes Against Humanity: Lessons from the Asia Pacific War" will run from noon to 6 p.m. and will feature international speakers on topics of human rights, biological warfare and racism. Among the speakers are Kinuko Laskey, who was a nurse at the Hiroshima Communications hospital when the U.S. dropped the bomb in 1945, and Maryka Omatsu, author of the book *Bittersweet Passage: Redress and the Japanese Canadian Experience.*

Each session will feature three different speakers, and will be chaired by UVic faculty.

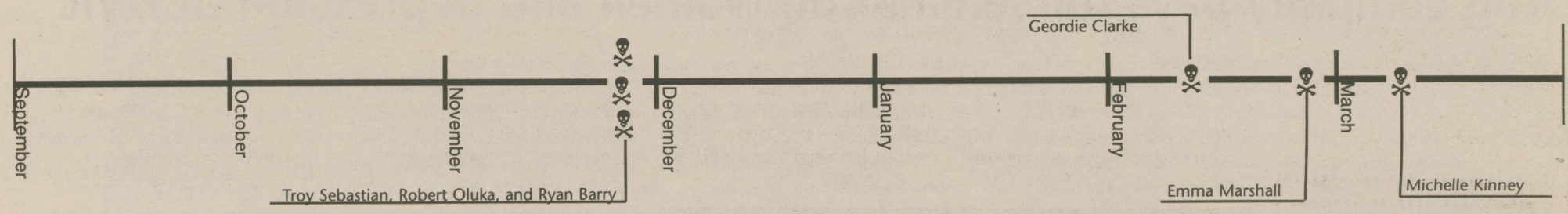
The free symposium has sponsorship from both student groups and faculties.

For more information on the lecture series, contact Paul Wood, pbwood@uvic.ca or Jude Coates, jude@uvic.ca.

The incredible shrinking UVSS board: A timeline

constructed by Suzanne Beaubien & John Thompson

With the recent resignation of UVSS Chair Michelle Kinney, the list of students' society casualities seems as long as Billy Ray Cyrus' mullet. This includes former Chair Troy Sebastian, Director of Academics Robert Oluka, Pride rep Ryan Barry, Director at Large Geordie Clarke, and Emma Marshall, rep for the Society for Students with a Disability. At this rate, who'll be the last standing? Place your bets...



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Putting Students First sweeps election

by Briony Smith and John Thompson

On Friday night, the Putting Students First slate waited calmly inside the campus pub, Felicita's, as the future board of directors was quietly determined by a group of ballot-counters inside the SUB upper lounge.

Meanwhile, most inhabitants of the Student Union Building had other things on their mind. As the slate left the pub, a pack of economics students swarmed in, preparing for their pub crawl.

"I've been disappointed by student government in the past. I've been really alienated," said Ryan Fairburn, a fourth-year economics student who knew elections were happening but didn't vote. He said he felt the UVSS was "a left-wing group that took control and just held it."

Providing colour commentary for the evening was Chuck Wootten, sporting an orange shirt, yellow tie and red suit. Wootten, 23, helped lead three unsuccessful opposition campaigns before graduating last summer. He returned during elections this year to support independent candidate Neal Evans, but his predictions for the evening were glum.

"He's going to lose to a machine," he said, referring to the highly organized Putting Students First slate.

In the upper lounge, the final results for the director-at-large race were inked with a black marker by the electoral chief on a large rolling bulletin board around 8:30 p.m., hours earlier than in previous years. The results were punctuated by nervous shouting and hand-slaps by Putting Students First candidates.

Meanwhile, two *Martlet* reporters were busy playing darts. (See sidebar for results.)

"So, that's the sweep for Putting Students First," announced Jonas Gifford as he punched the final figures into his laptop computer. "Congratulations."

Candidates expressed relief that campaigning was finally over.

"I'm glad that it's over," said Dave Holmes.

"I'm glad that *The Martlet* can stop covering this now," added Ian Saunders.

Even Neal Evans, the one candidate present who didn't win, echoed this sentiment.

"I'm doing okay. Not as happy as if I'd won, but really I'm relieved. Less work, really," Evans said. "It's just fun. I was treated well by everyone."

Meanwhile, back at the bar, Wootten was told the election results.

"Operation Clean Sweep? That's like a Gulf War attack plan," he said.

Twelve per cent of students voted this year, which is a four per cent increase from last year's voter turnout. Traditionally, voter turnout is higher whenever a referendum is held. This year there were three referendum questions concerning the dental plan, health plan, and the UVic Sustainability Project (UVSP) and the food bank. All three referendums were passed.

"Seeing such a positive turn-out and the large majority of students supporting initiatives that provide long-term support for students is great," said Andre Vallillee, proponent for the UVSP referendum. "It's really good."

During the campaign, some students expressed frustration over the lack of opposition in elections this year. One student at the last all candidates forum asked whose responsibility it is to raise awareness. Candidates replied it was the job of the electoral chief.

But according to Chief Electoral Officer Omid Fotuhi, organizing the election this year was difficult because the UVSS hired him two weeks later than usual. He felt this compromised his position, since he started only a week before the whole electoral process began.

"If I hadn't been so available, I wouldn't have been able to do it. As it was, I was just catching up. It was really horrible," he said.

He added that the responsibility for raising awareness does fall on the UVSS. He said the electoral chief's job is to "act as an impartial arbiter. [It is the job of the UVSS] to encourage all levels of involvement."

Incoming Chair Jude Coates said that it is not the job of the UVSS to find opposition, but to represent a wide range of interests on the board. "It's not our responsibility to coerce people to run if they're not interested in the first place," she said, adding she was excited to be elected.

"I was hoping to have someone to run against because it livens debate and strengthens your mandate if you win," she said.

Incoming Director of Finance Joanna Groves said one goal of hers is to get students more involved in campus politics. "We're going to try and re-inspire people and get them interested in effecting change. We need to get creative, not just doing rallies at the leg."

She said that there is a common feel of defeatism among UVic students, as they attend protests and rallies yet tuition continues to rise. This inspiration has to start with better communication with the student body, she said.

She feels that this election has established a great body of student representation for next year. "We wanted to make sure that we found people who give a crap and do good work, while sharing our basic ideas and values, like lowering tuition."

Election results

Total votes cast: 2200

Directors at Large

**Jeannie Coates*	*823*
Wil George	*815*
Kristin Leigh	*812*
Kate Dubensky	*781*
Amanda Prenger	*775*
Justin Douglas	*696*
Jesson Moen	*691*
Rob Easton	*691*
Daniel Sorenson	*644*
Dave Holmes	*632*
Ian Saunders	*624*
Neal Evans	554
Mark Redgewell	486

Chairperson
Jude Coates

Approve	*1319*
Disapprove	249

Director of Services

Scott Payne	*886*
Mike Tan	785

Director of Academics
Erik Haensel

Approve	*1276*
Disapprove	227

Director of Finance

Joanna Groves	*1075*
Brett Smith	534

Health Plan

Yes	*1737*
No	353

Dental Plan

Yes	*1772*
No	299

UVSP/Foodbank

Yes	*1656*
No	430

Dart Scores
Patrick White vs Zoë Bake-Paterson

Him	Her
xxx	20 xxx
xxx	19 xxx
xxx	18 xxx
xxx	17 xxx
x	16 xx
xxx	15 xxx
xxx	D xxx
xxx	T xxx
	B xxx

*Elected candidates are all in italics.

Corrections

Election Promises

• Justin Douglas and Jesson Moen are actually two different people, although they both look similar and have names beginning with "J." Douglas hopes to promote diversity and clean up campus recycling. Moen plans to spruce up the carpooling program.

• Kate Dubensky will try her darndest to implement an on-campus blue bikes program, but never expressed in definite terms whether this will happen. But we expect there'll be no slacking.

• In addition, we neglected to mention Erik Haensel promised to keep taking photos for *The Martlet*. Seeya next year, Haensel.

Don't Believe the Hype

• We alleged the student union tried to pull employee day-care during union negotiations. We apologize: SUB employees have never had day-care. Management was actually trying to reduce maternity leave benefits.

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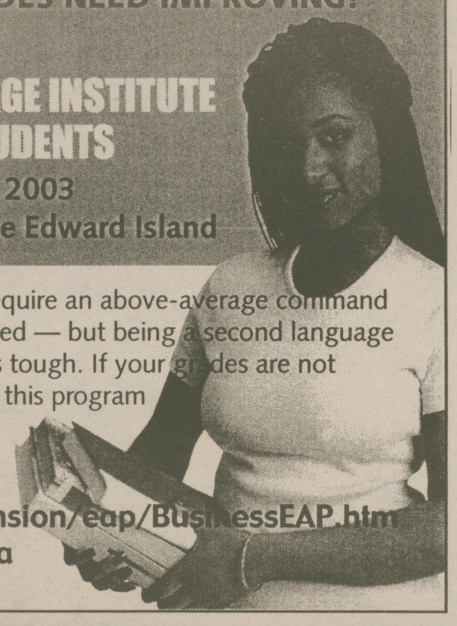

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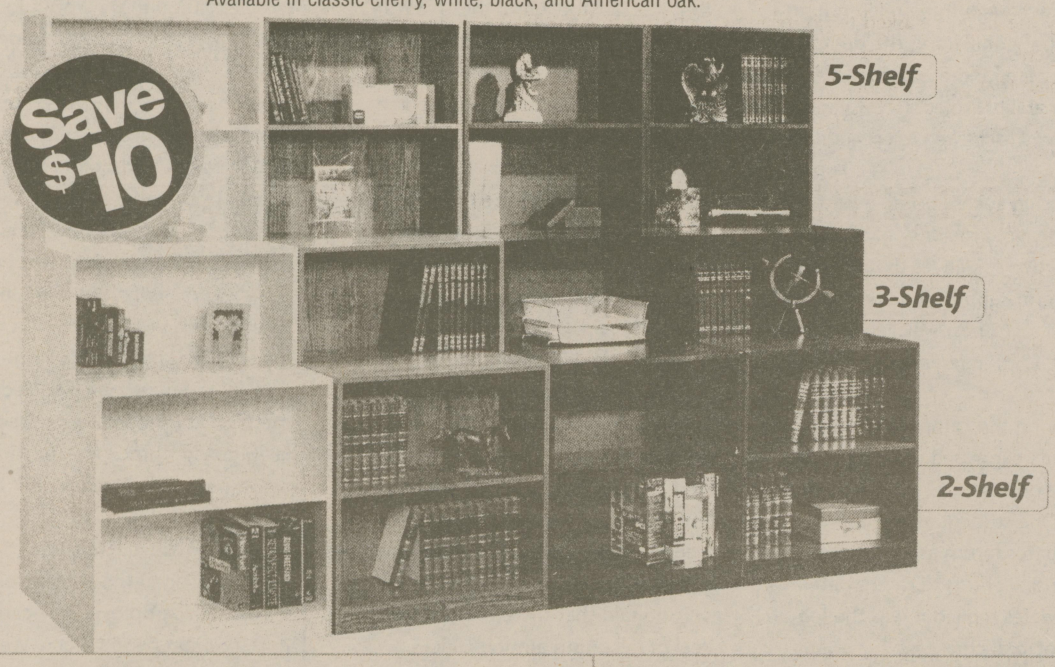

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Cunningham trees get slight reprieve

by Patrick White

Critics of UVic's campus development plans found a potential ally in Oak Bay Council at a Mar. 10 council meeting.

Around two dozen students, faculty and North Henderson residents were on hand for a presentation by history graduate student and Victoria mayoral runner-up Ben Isitt that outlined the history of the campus lands as well as future development plans that would see the removal of much of the controversial Cunningham Woods.

Following the presentation, Oak Bay Mayor Chris Causton asked for a letter to be sent to the University requesting their presence before the Council. Until that time, Causton will ask that no trees be removed from Cunningham Woods, which lies within Oak Bay boundaries.

Representatives for the university were unable to attend the meeting due to a coinciding campus plan update presentation.

Most in attendance saw council's decision as a cause for celebration. "Oak Bay Council is becoming more proactive," said Isitt after the meeting. "Previous councils watched as green space on campus was steadily destroyed. That's why we're celebrating."

Lucas Goris, a UVic student who attended the proceedings, said, "I'm pleased council understood that there is a need to protect what's left of an endangered eco-system. It's a shining light, potentially."

Causton was quick to point out that council has yet to take a position on the issue. He said the request for a council appearance by the university was mainly in response to recent changes to the campus development plan that council has yet to hear about.

"The letter will say that as a neighbour we'd like to have a dialogue in the near future rather than the distant future on the issue," said Causton. "We are a participant in this and we'd like to talk about the question and in the mean time we'd appreciate postponing immediate plans for the area in question."

Council also sent staff away with a number of questions regarding Oak Bay's legal jurisdiction over Cunningham Woods.

"We felt we had to get both sides of the issue, but we can only work within our legal jurisdiction," said Causton.

One of those staff members, municipal administrator Bill Cochrane, said, "Staff were asked to go through a letter from Mr. Isitt and determine what's feasible and what's not feasible."

A response to the UVic draft campus plan authored by Cochrane in June of last year said the plan was "clouded by the lack of any explicit acknowledgement that there must exist a reasonable limit to growth, even if the precise figure cannot be identified at this time."

Isitt concluded his presentation with a request that Oak Bay planners investigate a new 'Special Ecosystem Research' zone, which would apply to the forested areas that fall within Oak Bay.

Since a portion of the forest was clear-cut last December, environmentalists and administrators have entered into a pitched battle over the future of the Douglas fir grove, the last of its kind within Ring Road.

Two separate tree-sits have been set up (only one is currently occupied), and a recent decision by the university president to remove 23.6 metres of forest triggered the application to Oak Bay Council.

Group brings top eco-researcher to campus

by Megan Stewart

Heard of thermocline circulation? Know what an air-sea-ice climate system is?

This Tuesday, March 18th, Dr. Andrew Weaver, one of Canada's 20 top researchers under 40, will lecture on aspects of the world's oceans and currents and possible future alterations.

Carbon Free Campuses (CFC), a new project-oriented club that sprang up at UVic in September is bringing the prominent researcher to UVic.

"We are privileged to host such a distinguished speaker," said CFC President Stephen Albinati.

The club has previously presented Dr. David Scott and Dr. Boyd Cohen, two other leading researchers, in a lecture series on fossil-fuels and eco-business. Weaver's presentation on climate change is the keynote address of the series.

With plans to open chapters across the nation, CFC is paving the way towards a shift in Canadian society. The group aims to encourage a move towards carbon-reduced energy systems by fostering involvement from multiple faculties.

Engineers, business students, geology students and everybody in between are encouraged to participate in the shaping of carbon-free energy fuel sources.

"We are a group dedicated to exploring alternative energy systems," explained Albinati, "and we'd like to bring in all disciplines of the student body to make these projects fly."

The idea is to have students plan, design, and build renewable energy projects for use on campus. With the support of faculty and the administration, students could turn upper-level projects and theses into a hands-on experience and potential success.

"Projects could be used not only to demonstrate the possibilities of fuel cell technology, but used for research as well," said Ned Djilali, director of UVic's Institute for Integrated Energy Systems (IESVic) and the associate dean of engineering.

Djilali explains that alternative energy sources need to be showcased to the public. "We want to find a way for mainstreaming fuel cell technology."

While CFC can offer fossil-fuel alternatives and business ventures, Rae Nicole St. Arnault, UVic Sustainable Campus Initiative co-ordinator and CFC member, believes it does even more. "[CFC] fills a really important niche in the campus sustainability movement by supporting on-campus solution-based projects," she said.

The UVic campus is where CFC will focus its organization of renewable energy projects.

"We strongly believe you have to work with the local community, local being Vancouver Island and the UVic campus," said Djilali.

This is a prime opportunity for CFC to bring together a mix of students' ideas, concerns and possibilities at the university.

"The environmental crisis is an issue which is not isolated to any discipline. It encompasses all aspects of society including the technological, cultural, political and economical," said Albinati.

Dr. Weaver will present "The Ocean and Abrupt Climate Change" on Thursday, March 18th at 5:30 p.m. in the CIT building, room 105.

Carbon Free Campuses meets weekly on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. in the Human and Social Development Building, room A260.

photo by Jocelyn Beyak

Keepin' it clean: Carbon Free Campuses President Stephen Albinati will bring Dr. Andrew Weaver, one of Canada's 20 top researchers under 40, to campus on Tuesday, March 18th.

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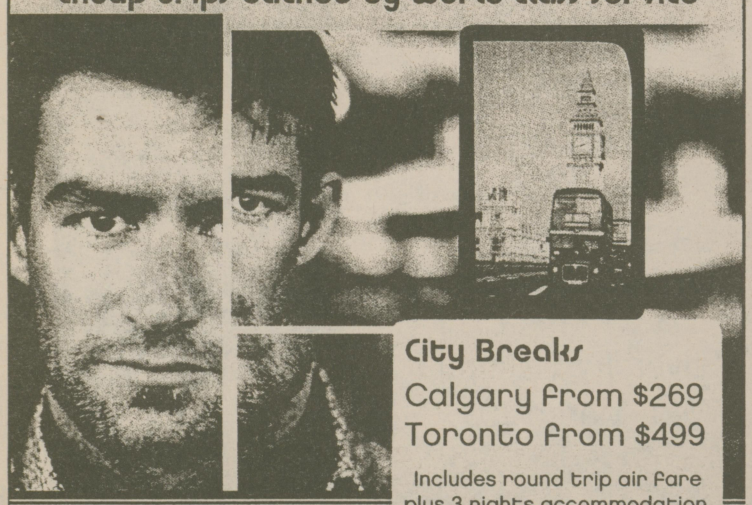

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Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures

Invitation to Nominate

The Selection Committee established under Section 9 of the Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures invites nominations for potential members of the Standing Hearing Panel.

The Standing Hearing Panel will be composed of six members, three males and three females. Formal hearings held under the Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures are heard before a single adjudicator selected from the Standing Hearing Panel. The full Policy and Procedures can be found on the WEB at: **http://web.uvic.ca/uvic-policies/pol-1000/1150HPP.html**.

Criteria for the Standing Hearing Panel

Members of the Hearing Panel shall be persons:

1) Not currently employed by the University; and
2) Experienced in administrative proceedings, particularly in conducting hearings or tribunals (e.g. including professional arbitrators, retired judges, lawyers experienced in tribunal work, former heads of administrative tribunals, etc.).

Preference will be given to those nominees who are experienced in mediating or adjudicating human rights and harassment issues and cases.

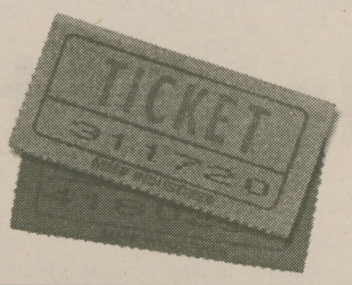
The agreement of the person to be nominated is not required. The Selection Committee will seek the consent of those who are selected to serve on the Standing Hearing Panel. The Committee will also ascertain that the persons selected have no conflicts of interest with the University. Preference will be given to persons from the local Victoria area.

The Selection Committee will make the final selection of the six members of the Standing Hearing Panel.

Please forward your nominations to the University Secretary, room 410 of the Business and Economics Building, by Friday, April 4th, 2003.

University of Victoria

Raising the steaks: Meat draw mayhem!



by Briony Smith

Ah, the meat draw. Whoever thought to bring together the worlds of Safeway-fresh meat and raffle prizes is obviously a genius. I first became intrigued with the meat draw when I saw an ad for the Tally Ho Motor Inn, advertising a "Free Meat Draw." What was this "meat draw" that they spoke of, I wondered.

After asking around, I discovered that a meat draw is a wondrous community event where people either purchase or are given raffle tickets and then if their number is called, they win meat! This was too good to be true. I had only one option: to go to the Tally Ho and see what this free meat draw was all about. Life does not get any better than the vague promise of a free shank of lamb or succulent rump roast.

I made some inquiries about the intrigue that surrounds the practice of the meat draw. *Martlet* writer Patrick White said fondly, "They remind me of home. And free meat? C'mon!" Arts editor Sarah Petrescu's mother is a frequent reveler at her local meat draw. "But she's just in it for the power tools," Petrescu told me in a confidential whisper. A friend who wishes to remain nameless had a misty look of remembrance in her eye. "Ah, I've eaten meat draw winnings many a time." A friend who, like me, had not been inaugurated into the select world of meat draw savoir-faire, said, "Meat draw... Is that, like, a sex thing?"

A group of *Martlet* staffers and I went to the Tally Ho to check out the action. On the bus, we squirmed with anticipation. "Are we at the meat yet?" asked Jeffrey Weston, graphics editor. "Just a couple blocks more, kids," said Patrick.

Gord Wilson, the Tally Ho meat draw organizer, was very enthusiastic to see new faces. A kindly gent with a stylin' mustache and a genial manner, he called out the tickets with the manner of a seasoned professional. The five of us rubbed our tickets between sweaty fingers, waiting eagerly for our chance.

At this particular draw, there were 15 pieces of meat to be won. We were getting desperate when there were only several pieces of meat left. How could we go home empty-handed? But then – wonder of wonders – my number was called!

I bounded up, victorious, waving my winning ticket maniacally, shouting with pure joy. There were only three choices left: a rack of beef ribs, a whole chicken, and a set of lamb medallions. It was a tough choice, but I decided to go for the classy option and shoveled that package of lamb into my arms lovingly.

I know why the meat draw is such a great event. It may not be a sex thing, but it's a fantastic thing nonetheless.

After all, who doesn't like free meat?

photo by Jeffrey Weston

Meat-a-licious! Gord Wilson and Briony Smith celebrate a successful draw.

Dependancy on debt growing, says national survey

by Chris Wilson-Smith, Ontario Bureau

TORONTO (CUP) -- A national survey has found that three out of four students rely on incurring debt to make it through their post-secondary education programs.

The average accumulation of debt is $5,600 per year, with the overall accumulation estimates as high as $20,000 for some students.

The survey was commissioned by the Millennium Scholarship Foundation.

"While the survey shows us that students have varying financial circumstances, student financial aid programs tend to treat students as being the same," said Alex Usher, the foundation's director of research and program development.

"Very little is actually known about how much money students earn from the numerous sources available to them, nor what they choose to spend their money on," he continued.

The survey reveals that students aged 20-21 face the largest monthly budgetary deficit, with an average shortfall of $142. Usher explained that this group experiences less support from family than younger students, are not eligible for the kinds of public and private debt-based financing older students have access to, and generally earn less than older students.

The survey found that nine out of 10 students earn an average of $4,000 in the summer, which still leaves most students with a monthly shortfall of $56 during the school year.

In general, as students age, their family circumstances and lifestyles change, resulting in increased income and expenditures, as well as increased debt, the survey says. Young students have lower educational costs, are more likely to live with their parents, and are more likely to receive financial support from their family.

Usher asks: "These findings beg the question: Do our student financial aid programs have the right clients, and are we providing them with appropriate support?"

A representative of a major student organization in Ontario says the answer is an emphatic "no."

"Students are relying more than ever on debt to pay the high costs of education, yet the loan system that the government expects students to use is woefully insufficient to meet their true costs," said Leslie Church, executive director of the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance, which represents full-time and part-time students across the province.

"In order to ensure true financial accessibility to post-secondary studies, students must have access to a student aid plan that effectively reflects the resources at their disposal to apply against the costs of post-secondary education," Church continued.

The Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) says a needs-based aid program is "desperately needed," and disagrees over many of the conclusions drawn from the survey.

Joel Duff, CFS Ontario chairperson, said the Millenium Scholarship Foundation "underestimated the student debt crisis in Canada."

According to Duff, the conclusions the foundation draws from the survey falsely represent the accumulated debt-load of the average student by averaging the debt of "first-year students to graduate students."

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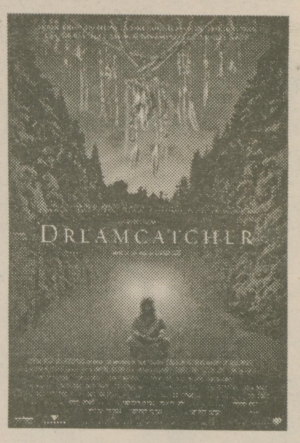

All you need to do to obtain a pass of your *very own* is come down to the office (sub b011) and share with us what renders you most frightened.

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Liberal club denied funds

by Bryna Hallam

The BC Young Liberals' request for funds to attend a recent rally supporting Vancouver's 2010 Olympics bid was not approved by the UVic Students' Society (UVSS), and Dallas Henault wants to know why.

"I feel there is a double standard," said Henault, a member of BC Young Liberals club on campus. He said that Director of Services Joanna Groves, who oversees clubs funding, told him his request was denied "because it was a political event, and because we were working on behalf of another group [the BC Liberal party]."

Henault argues their involvement with political parties is inevitable. "We are a political club," he said. "We do political things."

Groves explained that funds for clubs are intended for events that are free and accessible to all club members. She said she felt the Olympic bid rally didn't qualify.

"We try not to pay for things that are for the personal benefit of one or two club members," she said.

Henault added the group has held fundraisers for the BC Liberals in the past, which they received funding approval for. Groves maintains that fundraising for outside groups isn't allowed, and that if they did fundraise for the BC Liberal party, then she said it was misrepresented to her.

Henault feels that UVSS money goes to other groups and causes that are political, and that his club should not be left out.

Groves agrees that the UVSS is political in nature, but said that the students' society has a broader mandate than any individual club does.

"The political events we put on are non-partisan. They're not in support of any particular party," she said. "We are a political organization that lobbies on behalf of students."

The UVSS' Political Action Committee decides which causes are worthwhile for the society to support. Last February's tuition-fee rally was one event that got the go-ahead, for example. Committee decisions are made by vote and open to debate.

This isn't the first time students with rivaling political agendas have been denied funding for travel costs. Law student Kent Glowinski threatened the UVSS with a lawsuit when the finance committee turned down his request for funding to attend a September 11 conference in Ottawa. *(For details on Glowinski's case, see story below.)*

Groves added that the fact that the BC Young Liberals' request was made from the budget account played a part in the decision to not approve it.

The budget account for each club comes from the club's control account. This account is made up of student fees equal to $1 per semester per student. Clubs also have a trust fund, which contains any money that is donated to a club, or that they raise.

"I'm not sure students would be happy knowing their money went to support the 'yes' side of the Olympic bid," Groves said.

photo by Suzanne Beaubien

"Two, four, six, eight: All you students can't be straight!" Lesbians and allies marched Wednesday, March 12, in rememberence of UVic women's studies prof Michèle Pujol. The eighth annual Lesbian and Allies Walk is inspired by a class project Pujol assigned every year, in which students walked around campus holding hands with someone of the same sex, to promote understanding of queer issues on campus.

Dismissed! Glowinski UVSS claim thrown out

by Robin Platts

Kent Glowinski's legal action against the UVic Students' Society (UVSS) has ended, not with a bang, but with a whimper. At a Feb. 27 settlement conference, a judge dismissed Glowinski's claim that the UVSS had reneged on a promise to provide funding for his trip to a September 11 conference in Ottawa.

At an August 2002 UVSS board meeting, Glowinski, a second-year law student, requested financial support for his trip. The board voted to authorize the UVSS finance committee to give him up to $300. Although Glowinski said he saw the finance committee decision as a mere formality and assumed he would get the money, the committee decided not to donate any funds for his trip. Glowinski responded by filing a breach-of-contract claim in small claims court, contending that the UVSS had gone back on a promise.

"All along, we said we didn't make a decision," said UVSS Director of Finance Jonas Gifford. "He alleged we did a number of things we didn't do. And the evidence supports that we didn't do them."

Gifford was present at the Feb. 27 settlement conference in Victoria, along with the UVSS' lawyer and a judge. Glowinski represented himself via teleconference, because he is currently working in Vancouver. Following the conference, the judge chose to dismiss the claim without cost to either side.

"The judge thought the claim as it stood wasn't sufficient to merit court time," Gifford said.

"A lot of it comes down to the monetary amount," said Glowinski. "It probably wasn't worth the court's time to bring it to trial."

The judge did, however, propose alternatives to Glowinski, such as making a claim against two board members who Glowinski maintained promised him the funding. Glowinski said he has no plans to pursue the matter.

"I could," Glowinski said, "but I'm not the type of person who wants to make this a personal issue."

Gifford said it's up to Glowinski whether he thinks it's worth making another claim. "We don't think he has a case to file again," he said.

Glowinski seems satisfied with the outcome.

"Each side had a chance to present their arguments," Glowinski said of the settlement conference. "In the end, the UVSS had to pay anyway (for legal fees). In a sense, there's some moral victory there. I'm not the type of person to keep flogging a dead horse."

"I think both sides are happy that it's resolved and we can move forward," Glowinski said.

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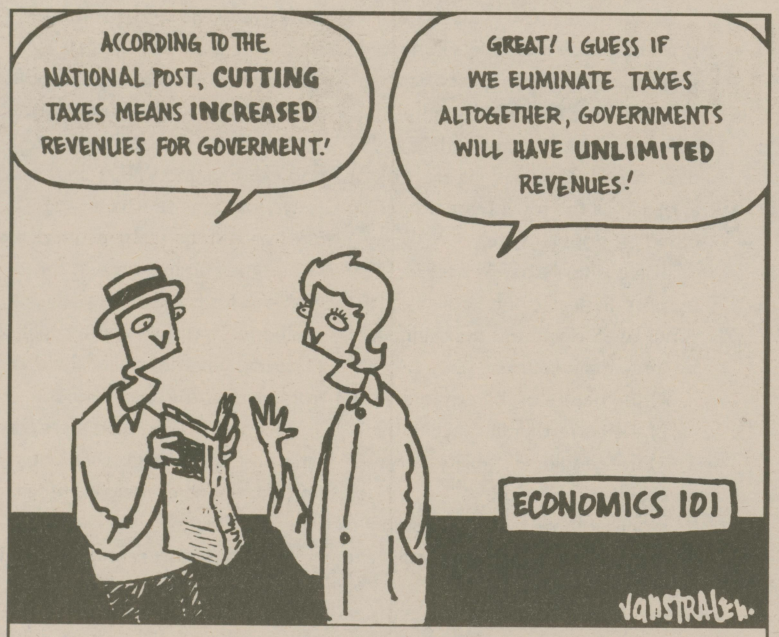
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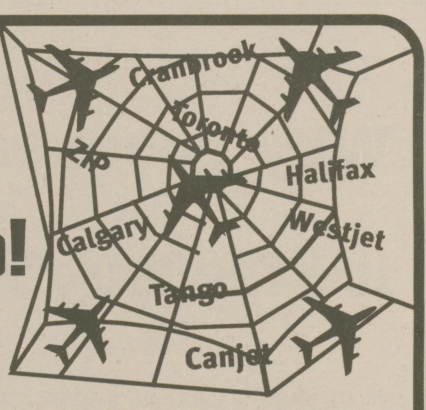

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Editorial

The kids are alright

The smoke has cleared, the results are in and the pooh-man has put down his guitar.

We weren't exactly on the edge of our seats over this year's UVic Students' Society (UVSS) elections. The results were more or less as we'd predicted, and not because we have psychic powers, but because it was a no-brainer.

Yep, it was a very clean sweep for the Putting Students First slate.

Congrats all around.

Yeah, we had some semi-tough election coverage last week – maybe we ruffled a feather here and there, but we're silly like that. We got some criticism (*see this issue's opinion pages*), but we're ready to stand behind our coverage.

Some criticized us for asserting that awareness of the UVSS had "probably decreased" in recent years. We'll stand behind that one and tell you that awareness of the students' society has dwindled significantly in recent *months*. The *Martlet* staff, who some still misguidedly perceive as UVSS puppets, didn't even know that Michelle Kinney had stepped down as UVSS chair until a couple of weeks after she gave notice.

When we first heard of Kinney's resignation, we asked a few SUB staffers if it was true.

"She stepped down? *Really*? I had no idea," was a typical response.

"Yes," *the Martlet* replied. "And we only just found out the Geordie Clarke had stepped down as director-at-large a while ago..."

"Geordie quit? No way!"

You get the picture.

If we, who work in the SUB, can't keep track of who's running the student government, how is everyone else supposed to?

Anyway, the Putting Student First kids are all right – they want to fight the proverbial good fight and all that but, as UVic's student paper, part of our job is to hold them accountable, ask some tough questions and not just take what they say at face value.

This should also serve as a wakeup call for the incoming board of directors. After all, their credibility as student representatives hinges on whether students *recognize* them as such. As it stands, most don't.

And of course, blame for student apathy can't fall squarely on the board of director's shoulders. Or a student newspaper's.

When it comes down to the grind, individual students need to pitch in if we want this campus to be an actual community, rather than a place to just play frisbee, write exams and drink beer before we move on to jobs as lawyers, doctors and Starbucks baristas.

So find out who your student representatives are, find out what they do and why it matters.

This year's team looks pretty solid from here and they're good people as far as we can tell, but keep an eye on them. It's only fair. They're representing you.

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at editorial meetings (each Friday at 11:30 am, in SUB B011). Editorials are written by one or more staff members, and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff members.

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Student voice

Finance director sets the record straight

by Jonas Gifford

Many *Martlet* readers are aware that most of the UVSS unionized staff have been without a contract since May 1, 2002. Unfortunately, many *Martlet* readers have been misinformed on bargaining issues.

The UVSS has to control its labour costs. We spend $2.4 million on labour each year. In the first nine months of this year, labour costs in the SUB food and beverage operations represented 51.5 per cent of gross revenue, not including the costs of any non-union managers who oversee these operations. This is unsustainable for any business anywhere.

We are a million dollars in debt and must take all costs seriously. But the UVSS has never made proposals of the scale indicated by Richard Warnica's or John Thompson's pieces on March 6, 2003.

Warnica alleges that the UVSS asked student staff to take cuts in pay and benefits. The UVSS never asked for pay cuts, and has asked for some reductions in benefits like free coffee and discounted food. *Martlet* readers should consider the UVSS proposals in the context of the union's current pay and benefits package.

· Over the lifetime of the last union contract, unionized staff saw pay increases between 11 per cent and 34 per cent. Student staff now earn between $9.75 and $11.93 per hour.

· Unionized staff are entitled to a 40 per cent discount on food, free coffee, tea, and pop, free Cinecenta movies, and a host of benefits like free popcorn and resumé paper depending on where they work.

· Student staff have access to a sick-leave fund to cover lost wages for sick days.

· Permanent staff are paid for the entire Christmas break when the SUB is closed, and receive an additional two to three weeks of vacation. They also receive MSP, health and dental benefits, plus long-term disability and life insurance, almost entirely at the UVSS's expense.

Warnica alleges that the UVSS has demanded draconian scheduling and layoff provisions. Currently, the UVSS can make a work schedule only once in each four-month university term, and any change to that schedule requires a month's notice if there is a reduction of work. The UVSS proposals increased scheduling flexibility while continuing to offer student staff better security than a typical job downtown.

Thompson criticizes the UVSS for trying to remove childcare benefits. The UVSS never proposed any reduction or elimination of childcare benefits.

The UVSS negotiating team has worked very hard to reach an agreement.

The UVSS management has also worked very hard to improve operational controls and reduce costs, and has increased prices for its SUB services to generate more revenue.

I hope we continue to work together without continuing to spread hearsay and misinformation.

Jonas Gifford is the UVSS director of finance.

Student voice

Students' society elections are fair, says ex-director

by Geordie Clarke

As a former candidate in UVSS elections – as an independent for director-at-large in 2001, and running on the Putting Students First (PSF) slate in 2002 – and a former director-at-large on the UVSS Board of Directors, I feel my experience in this area provides me with an opportunity to write on the issues brought up in last week's *Martlet*.

First, there is this notion that the electoral system is biased in favour of the Putting Students First (PSF) slate. Any person who knows the electoral policy, and any person who has studied electoral systems, will know that this is simply false.

There is no known bias in the electoral policy that favours any single candidate. It is a very basic system where a simple majority wins executive elections, while director-at-large positions are awarded to the top 11 candidates based on popular vote.

There is no "bias" as people purport. Basically, one's ability to win a UVSS election is determined by three main factors:

1) the nature of the electorate;

2) the current political climate;

3) the candidate's ability to run an effective campaign.

If one of these factors is not in the candidate's favour, they will most likely lose the election. Perhaps this is the "bias" people are talking about, in which case it is no bias at all.

Lisa Karoway, a former candidate herself, was quoted as saying that the PSF slate has "a monopoly in the UVSS."

While I respect Lisa's opinion, and I respect her concerns about the general lack of effective opposition in UVSS elections, it must be noted that this monopoly is not a result of any electoral biases, but instead, it is a result of student apathy and a general lack of interest. Let's not fool ourselves, people. We must all understand that not a lot of people want to vote in the election (election turnout is 10 per cent or less, on average), let alone run in it, and many of those that do run in it will most likely make the error of running a poor campaign. I say this because I have experienced both poor campaigns and good campaigns.

The good campaigns win, while the poor campaigns lose.

Period.

If someone runs a campaign that appeals to UVic students more effectively than the PSF slate's campaign, then they would stand an excellent chance at winning.

The SPUD slate ran a pretty good campaign in 2001 and, as a result, was able to win several director-at-large seats, while at the same time coming close in the elections for the executive positions. That slate was a coalition of candidates with political views from all over the spectrum.

The people who won were those who best appealed to UVic voters, and no, not all of them were left-wing candidates.

Second, I must respond to Brett Smith's contention that Jonas Gifford's open support for the PSF slate is "something that should be avoided in the future."

Smith was also quoted as saying that Gifford's help "[was] something that bears ethical scrutiny" and "creates and maintains a perception of collusion."

The reality is that there is no collusion, and there is no ethical problem. Gifford occupies a political office, and like any other person occupying a political office, he wants to see like-minded people succeed him.

How is this any different from every other election in Canada? The answer is, and the reality is, that this scenario is not at all different from other elections.

Now, if the SUB general manager were campaigning in favour of a particular candidate, then I would say there is an ethical problem, but when it comes to a person occupying an elected office, there is no problem, and everybody knows that. In fact, this is a complete non-issue, and I am quite surprised that it even came up. There simply is no collusion, and I cannot imagine where someone would get this idea.

Any elected official is allowed to campaign in favour of any group they choose. Denying them this right would be completely wrong.

Now, I want to make sure I don't come off simply as an apologist for the PSF slate; instead, my intention here is to inform students that the reality of the UVSS electoral system is such that the people who continually win elections are the ones who run the best campaigns.

These people effectively judge the current electoral climate, build a strong and dedicated coalition (this includes gaining support from people with past experience), and appeal to students who vote, not the ones who don't vote.

I have been on both sides of this argument, and because of this, I can state from experience that the candidates who failed to win are the ones who just didn't play the game properly.

Now, isn't this the real issue here?

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I PROTESTED THE WAR BY BUYING THIS ANTI-CONSUMERISM PIN!
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UVic students show their opposition to a war in Iraq.

Letters

Ballot box blues

I'm just writing to comment on one of the ballots that was used in the student union elections this week.

The third question on the green ballot (the one concerning health plans, etc.) contained two parts: an increase of $0.50 for the food bank, and an increase of $0.50 for sustainability.

But this two-part question forced students to pick either YES to both, or NO to both.

Why? I didn't want to vote the same way for both. Was it really that hard to add two more square boxes on the ballot? Or was it really that easy for our student leaders to guarantee favourable results on both issues by manipulating ballot questions?

I'd like the student union to know that I voted YES on the third question for humanitarian reasons, not for environmental ones. If those of you on the student union feel that this was a fair way to get my environmental vote, why don't you put my name next to yours on the next ballot and ask people to vote either YES or NO to both of us?

Mark Munn

Fly like an Egalitarian

Regarding the editorial "Rethinking Feminism," in last week's issue of *the Martlet*:

I found this piece very interesting and informative. I think it did a good job of dispelling the myths about the women's equality movement and made a strong argument that men need to be involved in this movement.

However, I would also like to point out that it is very hard for a man to say that he is a feminist or that he agrees with women's rights.

For example, I have been called a "queer," "freak," "sissy" and "mamma's boy" after stating my agreement and support for the women's rights movement.

I have even been told (by men and women) that me calling myself a feminist, considering that I am also a heterosexual male, is like a member of the KKK chanting "freedom now!" I find this very hurtful.

The insults and arguments have gotten so harsh, in fact, that I have started calling myself an "Egalitarian." For those of you who aren't quite sure what an Egalitarian stands for or what we believe, I think that the position, as I understand it, is best summed up in the following metaphor:

We are all in the same sinking ship. Some of us are going down slower than others, but we all must work to keep each other from drowning, or eventually, we will all drown.

Trey McNeil

Feature Writing Workshop

Stephen Hume

full-time *Vancouver Sun* writer & previous *Martlet* editor

sub b028
Friday March 14
4pm - 5pm

It's a two-fer

The Martlet is having its
SAGM and **Staff Appreciation Day**

March 20, 2003

Team Bulding Seminar	1:00 pm
SAGM	3:30 pm

Contributors, staff—if your name is in the box on the left of this page, we want you there!

And you want to be there too!

Smells unlike team spirit

Where are all the fans, eh?

story by Luke Lin
graphics by Graham Stark

In five days, the United States will be engulfed by a force more powerful than the Bush administration. Every year, college basketball spreads across the country like a virus and afflicts millions. This incurable disease is often referred to as "March Madness." The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) adopts this term to mark the 21-day, 65-team, NCAA Division I men's basketball tournament. This whirlwind tournament is one of the greatest spectacles in all of sports; it bombards North American television networks and creates euphoric scenes on U.S. college campuses. Students traditionally mask their faces in school colours and flock to the nearest television screens to catch the latest scores and highlights of the "madness."

"There's a frenzy on campus right now," says Scott Mackenzie, the University of Arizona's director of marketing. "When March Madness starts, everybody talks about it. You walk into any sports bar here in Tucson (Arizona) and the places are humming."

Indeed, U.S. college sports, especially football and basketball, are like a relentless animal – too big, too ferocious, and too intense to be ignored by American students. Here in Canada, it would require a jolting Al MacInnis slap shot in the face for most students to notice their university teams. Many factors contribute to the discrepancy between Canadian and American student support, but the main culprit is our different cultural philosophies.

The Cameron Crazies

At the University of Victoria, third-year political science student Cam McCarthy rests comfortably on a bench in front of the Petch Fountain. He smiles sheepishly when asked about his attendance at (UVic) Vikes' varsity events. "It's not hyped up at all," says McCarthy. "Here at UVic, if there's a game going on nobody really gives a s—t."

Nearby, Geoff Labine leisurely strolls to the campus library. The third-year physical education student ventures to Vikes' games about as often as Canadians don't say "eh" in conversation. "People are interested in doing other things with their time," says Labine. "We only have so much free time because we're so busy with school. I don't know if (UVic teams) can ever equal the attendance that the U.S. gets, because it's a totally different mindset."

Fifth-year political science major Elysia Dempsey's eyes are hidden behind her black sunglasses, but her enthusiasm oozes through her body language. "I love sports," exclaims Dempsey, nodding her head slightly for emphasis before adding, "but there isn't one team that everybody just [has] to go and watch here."

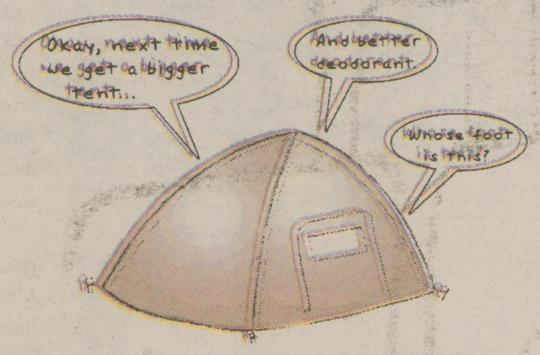
At Duke University in Durham North Carolina, however, students are obsessed with their men's basketball program. Duke is a school with only 6,400 students, but the university is renowned for having the rowdiest, wittiest, and best-organized college basketball fans in the land – the "Cameron Crazies" they're called. Cameron Indoor Stadium, where the Duke Blue Devils play their home games, has witnessed some of the most original chants and antics orchestrated by fans anywhere.

When Shaquille O'Neal played in Duke during his Louisiana State University career, the "Cameron Crazies" relentlessly showered him with chants of "Shaq's got a big ol' butt, oh, yeah!" And it's not just visiting players that are ridiculed. When NCAA referee Dick Paparo made a bad call several years ago, chants of "You suck, Dick!" boomed throughout the 9,314-seat stadium. But when Duke's legendary coach Mike Krzyzewski lectured the Crazies for their lewd language, the crowd settled for "You suck, Richard!"

According to David Almodova, Duke's sports promotions staff assistant, their students are so passionate about their mens's basketball that over a thousand fans set up tents outside Cameron Indoor Stadium last December 28 to ensure themselves a seat for the game against rival University of North Carolina (UNC) in early February. Twelve people occupied each tent so that shifts could be taken for participants to attend class.

"The night before the game, coach K brought all the kids into the gym to talk to them about respecting the tradition between Duke and North Carolina," says Almodova. "Then he bought them all pizzas." After the UNC game, the Crazies snuggled back into their tents in preparation for the University of Maryland contest two weeks later.

Associate sports information director Art Chase says there's a tradition at Duke that keeps students coming back game after game. "The students take a lot of pride in the athletic department," says Chase. "They've shown an amazing amount of support for the basketball program and it's something that has snowballed over the years because of our success."



Attack of the three-headed basketball player

According to UVic cultural studies professor Kim Blank, media exposure is crucial for creating student interest in any university team, athlete, or event. "You can talk about the name of a team like the Blue Devils, or the Huskies, or the Bruins and everyone knows who those teams are," says Blank of the American media's varsity coverage. "The only reason why that can happen is because they (U.S. colleges) are so heavily mediated by television, newspapers, and magazines.

"You look at their whole culture of drafting players and their obsession with the Heisman Trophy (the award given to the top U.S. college football player) and which players are going to what college – all these things create this mythology of being a celebrity by participating in college sports. We haven't created the culture around the Vikes' name yet that makes them attractive in the form of celebrity status."

By now, even casual sports fans have likely heard of American high school basketball prodigy Lebron James. The 17-year-old has undeniable talent, but the American marketing machine has pounced on him. *Sports Illustrated* dubbed James "The Chosen One" on its cover a year ago, as over 20,000 people watched the 6-foot-8 senior play in a state tournament game – the largest crowd ever to see a high school basketball game in Ohio.

"Would Steve Nash have gained celebrity status by coming to UVic? Probably not," says Blank of the Dallas Mavericks star point guard.

Nash, who attended Victoria's St. Michaels University School, passed on numerous offers from Canadian institutions to attend Santa Clara University in California. He led SCU to the NCAA tournament three times in the mid '90s – gaining massive media attention for both him and his "underdog" team in the process.

"The media creates the meaning of these things," says Blank. "Without them, you can have a three-headed basketball player who's eight-foot tall and it wouldn't make a difference if the media doesn't promote it in some way. It would mean nothing."

Blame Canada

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien has often been blamed for Canada's anemic economy and low dollar. But now UVic's head of Intramurals Paul Smith attributes student apathy toward varsity sports to the PM's alleged lack of exercise. Smith, who's an alumnus of Washington State University, says Canadian politicians should engage in public athletic activities like their American cohorts.

"When have you ever seen Chrétien jogging? Never," says Smith. "But have you seen Clinton jogging, or Bush jogging? Yes we have. It's an image right from the top. You always see American presidents at sporting events. In the U.S., they got governors of states betting meals with each other (on college games) and doing stuff like that to create this excitement. You don't see this in Canada."

What we do see in Canada is a plethora of empty seats at varsity games. UVic men's basketball averages 1,500 fans a game, but the student body contributes only about 20 per cent of this number. More discouraging is the attendance of a recent playoff game between the Vikes women's basketball team and University of Regina Cougars at UVic's McKinnon Gymnasium. A paltry 297 fans showed up – in total!

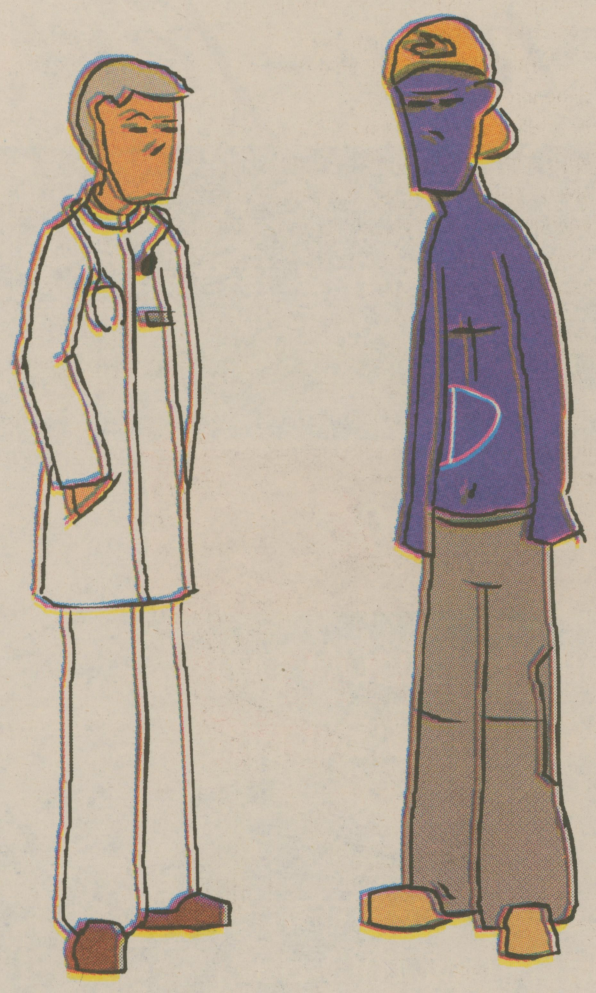
The friendly West Coast climate deters some students from attending games at UVic, and indeed the women's contest was played on a balmy Sunday afternoon. "Our students here on any given weekend can go skiing, surfing, hiking in the woods – they can do all this stuff," says Smith. "If it's a gorgeous sunny day outside, the last thing students want to do is sit inside and watch a basketball game. We schedule our games at the wrong times. Students aren't going to go to a sporting event on a Sunday afternoon."

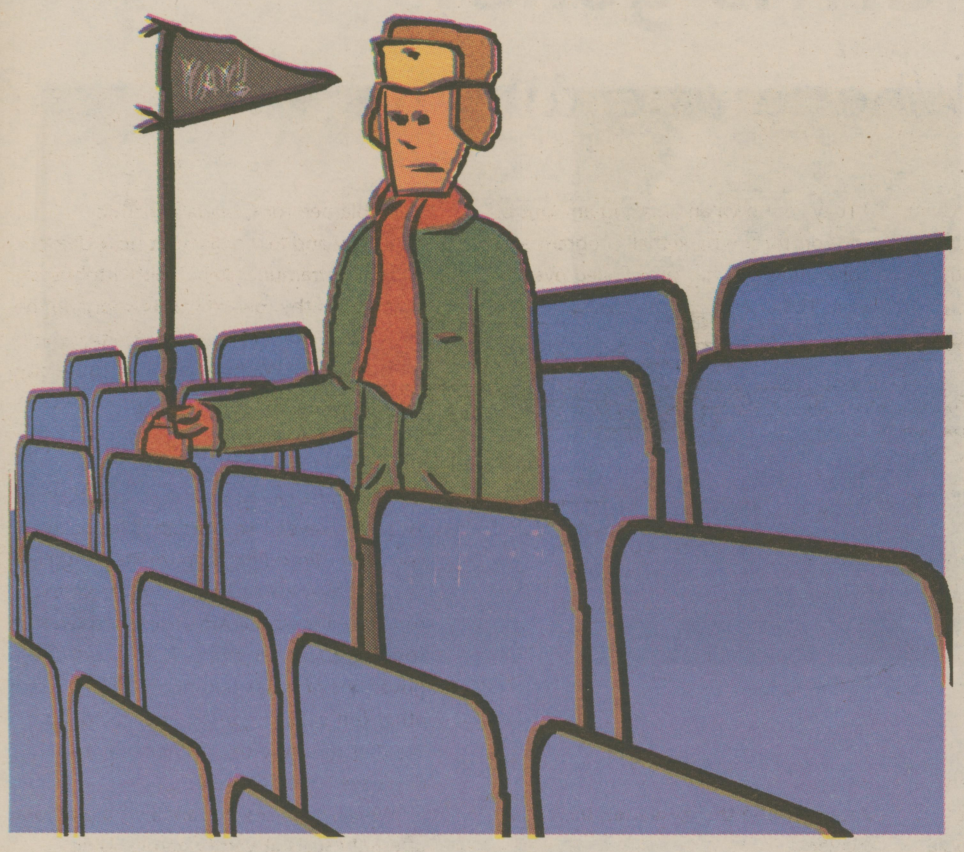
Smith notes the significance of creating a connection between students and the school moniker to combat challenges such as living in active environments. "We should all be Vikes," says Smith. "Vikes isn't just an athlete – Vikes is to identify the University of Victoria student. At Washington State, everybody was a Cougar (WSU moniker). They (UVic) haven't made the student population feel that they're a part of it."

Smith stresses the importance of promoting a party atmosphere, where people come to an event to socialize as much as for the game itself. "People like being around people," he says. Everybody thinks the football games in the states are only about the football, well, not at all. They (the U.S.) have dad's weekends, mom's weekends, and homecoming. They have all these social events that they tie in together (with the games), and we haven't created that."

UVic women's rowing head coach Rick Crawley agrees with Smith that Canadian schools haven't done enough to attract students to varsity games. Crawley, who attended the University of Washington in the early '70s, says every Washington Huskies' football game was an "event."

"There would always be antics going on and the cheerleaders would be over at the student section leading off colour cheers that usually consisted of swears," says Crawley. "It was an experience, and you





got caught up in the environment and festivities of it all."

The point is, anything can happen at an American varsity event and it usually does. Crawley chuckles when recalling an incident during a football game between Washington and the visiting Ohio State Buckeyes.

"Ohio State was down at our end of the field and were on their way to scoring a touchdown, when on the other end two dogs had got out onto the field and were humping each other," says Crawley with a big grin. "Everybody was watching the dogs, and meanwhile the cheerleaders were running cheers for the dogs. I don't even remember who won the game."

Crawley's smile vanishes when discussing Canada's lack of emphasis on university sports. He says Canadian institutions often neglect athletic components of the curriculum. "We don't consider physical education or activity as important in our school system as cerebral academic aspects," he says. "I think this is wrong because body, mind, and soul are three important elements that we need to address in our education system."

The Numbers Game

Up in his Burnaby Mountain office, Simon Fraser University media relations coordinator Steve Frost doesn't sound enamoured with the attendance figures at SFU sporting events.

"We can certainly do better," says Frost about student turnout. "Fans nowadays are being drawn to amateur sports because of the resentment towards pro athletes. We have to take advantage of that."

The statistics he provides indicate that they haven't – at least not yet. And with the Vancouver Canucks walloping NHL competition lately, the task won't be simple. With a student population of 15,000, SFU men's and women's basketball averages a modest 500 fans in the Chancellor Gym. However, they do sell out their games against cross-town rival UBC. Frost declines to estimate the percentage of students that attend, but says Friday nights traditionally draw more for basketball games than Saturdays – a trend that is echoed in other Canadian universities, largely because students stay on campus after school on Fridays.

Success doesn't appear to breed fans either. The SFU women's basketball team is one of the best in Canada, with an 18-2 win-loss record. And while their men's team finished 10-10, they were a top-ranked team in the beginning of the season.

UBC athletic director Bob Philip says attendance has increased this year since the school licensed beer sales at every sporting event. But the numbers suggest alcohol alone isn't enough to entice students from doing other activities. Not surprisingly, UBC attracts a decent crowd of 2,400 for basketball games against SFU, but Philip estimates that only about 800 are students – disappointing for a university with a 32,000 enrollment. What happens when SFU isn't the opponent? Philip says, for example, the game against the University of Regina this year drew 700 fans in total.

Okay, how about football? Surely the numbers must be more promising for the hard-hitting sport, right? Barely. UBC football draws 3,500 people – against SFU, but the numbers can dip to a low of 800 for other opponents.

The apathy isn't limited to B.C. At the University of Western Ontario, a school of 23,000 students tucked 200 kilometres west of Toronto, sports information officer Brian Snelgrove says an average of 400 fans attend UWO basketball games – 600 short of capacity in the 1,000 seat Alumni Hall. Like Frost, he isn't sure of the percentage of students in attendance. More encouraging, however, is the turnout for UWO football. The university has a rich history in the sport, so it's not entirely surprising that an impressive (by Canadian standards) 6,000 seats are filled in their 8,100 seat Waterhouse Stadium. Thirty-five per cent of those seats are filled by students.

Football is also the main attraction at the University of Regina, which draws 3,500 fans to Taylor Field, the home of the Canadian Football League's Saskatchewan Roughriders. But despite often selling out basketball games by cramming 850 people into their gym, the vast majority of fans are community members and only 10 per cent are students.

"The students here only come out to games if they either know someone on the team or if someone visiting from out of town wants to go," says U of R sports information officer Brad Woods.

Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) director of marketing Peter Metuzals recognizes that student support for their university teams in Canada in comparison to the U.S. is, well, non-comparable. But he laughs at the suggestion that student apathy in Canada is attributed to a lack of money available to market and promote events.

"It doesn't make sense for people to think like that," says Metuzals. "To say that we don't have the resources is just a cop-out. It's an excuse for the universities to not get things done. If you bring in somebody whose sole job and purpose is to bring students to games – you don't think he's going to do it if his job is on the line?"

From discussions he's had with the Television Sports Network (TSN) Metuzals says the Canadian sports channel won't broadcast more CIS games because they don't perceive a huge demand for it.

"I always tell them (TSN) that they should be promoting the CIS more and showing more games but they just say, 'Yeah, you're right. But there isn't a point in televising a game if nobody is in the stands. The empty seats won't look too good on T.V.' "

Metuzals acknowledges the atmosphere at American varsity events as something Canadian universities should be envious of. "A lot of our universities aren't doing the right things to get students to come out to games," he says. "Our institutions have to look at the games as entertainment. The competition is great, which is why the alumni, parents, and community come out. But if I'm a student who spends 15 hours a week in class – I'd rather go to the bars and party."

Bucking the Trend

Trinity Western University in Langley B.C. has adopted the American party mentality at its basketball games in particular – and it shows. Perhaps their large number of U.S. students is a factor.

"We do have a fair amount of American students (30 per cent), but our campus has a real sense of community, which makes it a lot of fun to come out to the games," says TWU's events manager Julie Ratzlaff. "It's more than just an athletic event."

The noise inside Trinity's David E. Enarson Gymnasium ping-pongs from wall-to-wall when fans pack into the 1,500 seat venue. The gym got so loud a couple of months ago during a basketball game between SFU and Trinity that a woman in the stands left in the middle of it complaining of a headache. She apparently asked for her money back. In a separate incident, also against SFU, wild drum beats rocked the small gym after two Trinity players connected on an alley-oop dunk. As the crowd rose in a deafening crescendo, the referee issued a technical foul to the fans for being too vociferous.

"When you leave the gym and your ears are ringing, you know it was loud," says Ratzlaff. "You know, we'd sink a three-pointer and the gym explodes. The excitement is just growing."

UVic men's basketball star Chris Trumpy compares the scenes at Trinity to some of the American schools he visited last year during his one-year hiatus at Loyola Maramount University in California.

"It's a zoo in some places down there," says Trumpy. "It's really neat to see."

Choosing his words carefully, Trumpy says UVic should allow their fans to "cut loose" during games.

"I've seen people get kicked out (of McKinnon Gym) for being too obnoxious, like heckling the other team's coach," he says. "In the States, the students would get away with that kind of stuff. You're not going to get students to come (to games) when you kick them out for cheering too loud. You have to make it fun for people."

He does add, however, that UVic sports receives tremendous support from the community – a statement UVic's public relations coordinator Pete Lewis certainly agrees with.

"We have very loyal fans but the student population is underrepresented," says Lewis, trumpeting the Canadian theme. "The thing with us is we focus on family entertainment. Our fan base is not only knowledgeable but they're very respectful."

Although Lewis would welcome more campus support, he understands that UVic has a diverse student culture with many other interests. "We work hard to get the word out on campus through a lot of different avenues," says Lewis. "But it (varsity sports) isn't going to be for everybody. It would be a fairy tale for us to think that we could get everybody on campus to come out to our games. We're realistic about it."

When proposed with the idea of mimicking the aura that's prevalent in American colleges by adding pep bands and cheerleaders to provide entertainment and spirit at games, Lewis says he isn't averse to the suggestion.

"I think it would enhance the experience," says Lewis. "By adding a band or adding anything that can increase the appeal for a fan is something we will always consider. I never want to give up on encouraging more people to come out and trying new things and making the experience even better."

As the saying goes, however, actions speak louder than words, and whether change will actually occur at UVic and other Canadian universities remains uncertain. Until then, the Madness continues.

Where have all the Riot Grrrls gone?

"and began to scrawl such in-your-face words as "BITCH" + "SLUT" across their torsos and limbs..."

photos submitted

The Golden Grrls of Riot "thank you for bein' a friend," but say no to homogenizing their image: clockwise, Le Tigre, L7 and Kathleen Hanna.

by Lindsey Starr

Back before feminists were as well structured as we are now, there was a movement started by (and created for) women who had two simple interests: punk rock and feminism. According to rock folklore, Riot Grrrl was started by a few girls in Olympia (namely the punk bands Bratmobile and Bikini Kill) in the spring of '91, as a reaction against the very male-dominated music scene of the early '90s. Out of initial meetings set up in apartments and basements, the grrrls discovered that they shared many similarities: most were tired of being relegated to the back of moshpits (or enduring abuse in the midst of them) and all wanted to create a safe environment to discuss politics and music. Kathleen Hanna, front woman of Le Tigre and formerly of Bikini Kill, was declared unofficial leader of the movement and began implementing such revolutionary tactics as asking men to move to the back of her concerts so that girls could come up front, as well as inviting women onstage to talk about their experiences with child abuse or rape.

The grrrls even created the slogan "Revolution, Girl Style Now" as a universal call for girls to create solidarity. The seeds of the movement spread quickly and the grrrls busily created all-girl punk festivals, workshops, conferences and jam sessions. At the National Riot Grrrl Convention in Washington, D.C., the grrrls took inspiration from such groups as Public Enemy and Queer Nation, and began to scrawl such in-your-face words as "Bitch" and "Slut" across their torsos and limbs in an attempt to reclaim the words. Most had never done something so blatant, and for many it was liberating.

Underneath it all, the movement was really one of communication. The grrrls truly were able to express themselves in the pages of the many zines they published. *Wiglet*, *Hit it or Quit it*, *Hungry Girl* and *Girl Germs* included everything from poetry, essays like "I am a Feminist and so is My Dad," concert reviews, statistics, service pieces, pieces on abortion and child abuse, to factoids such as "Did you know that on Super Bowl Sunday, women's shelters report a large increase in calls for help?" and letters. The zines were photocopied and passed out at concerts and meetings and sent across the country to different Riot Grrrl chapters and proved to be an invaluable source of information for girls no longer satisfied with "Most Embarrassing Moment" info from the latest *YM* magazine.

As the movement grew in popularity among teenage girls, mainstream media began to catch wind of the burgeoning phenomenon. The Riot Grrrls quickly became categorized as the female contingent of the grunge era. *Newsweek*, *Rolling Stone*, *Sassy* and *Seventeen* all came knocking on the door of anyone related to the movement, asking stupid questions and vying for photo ops. Pictures began to turn up in *Rolling Stone Magazine* and *Newsweek* of girls in Doc Martens with words such as "Slut, Bitch, Rape" written in black marker across their stomachs, arms and legs. More and more people wanted to know who these "grrrls" were and what exactly they stood for.

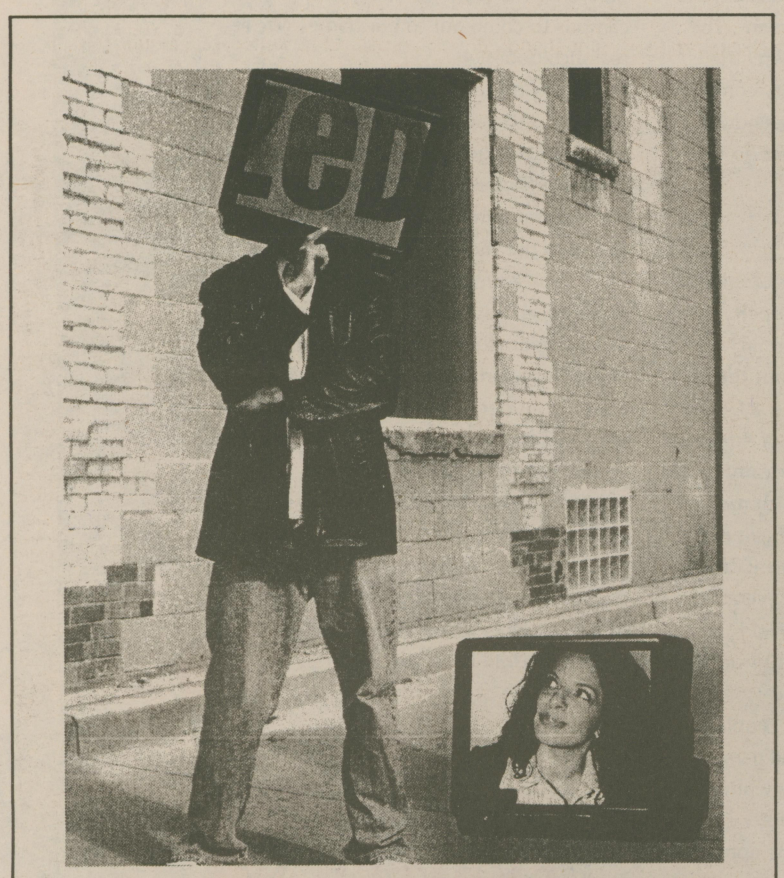
The grrrls found themselves ill-equipped to deal with their newfound popularity. The movement was for women, by women – it wasn't about marketing the latest grunge style.

Kathleen Hanna called for a block on any interaction with the press. The movement was too unstructured. Too disorganized. Plus there were rumblings of dissention among its members. People began to complain about elitism at meetings. Suddenly, some girls weren't punk rock enough to be feminist. And understandably a backlash began. Kim Gordon of the band Sonic Youth was quoted in a 1993 issue of *Rolling Stone* magazine as saying, "The problem now is that if you're a woman in a band, Riot Grrrl has become a yardstick by which you're measured. I don't have anything against it. But I've been doing what I do for 10 years."

Feminists and women rockers debated on what the movement meant. People resigned their status as "Riot Grrl," concerned over the elitist connotations that began to be associated with the phrase. The movement began to be crushed under its own momentum, after only two short years of life.

When the dust had settled, the Riot Grrrls movement had been all but dismantled. Kathleen Hanna stepped down as unofficial leader. Courtney Love (never officially a riot grrrl, but a patron saint nonetheless) got a boob job and moved to Hollywood, and L7 and Babes in Toyland got signed up to play at Lollapalooza (one of the biggest cockrock extravaganzas of its time.) And the grrrls rallying cry "Revolution, Girl Style Now!" was horrifically transformed into "Girl Power" by the antithesis of the Riot Grrrls – the Spice Girls in 1996.

Now just a few abandoned Web sites and articles are all that remain of the original movement. But the residual effects still linger – the "Riot Grrrls" did what they set out to do: open a network of communication to the young women of North America and help bring feminism even further into society's consciousness.



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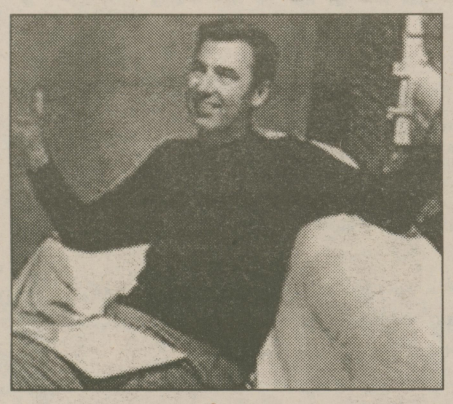
A somber day in the neighbourhood: Mr. Rogers dies at age 74

by Mark Samcoe



photos submitted

Left: Fred Rogers at an early taping of his show and (right) still chipper in the later years.

It's been two weeks since Fred Rogers, host of *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*, died of stomach cancer in his Pittsburgh home. Wedged between reports on preparations, deliberations and protestations of war, his passing reminded me of my childhood. I saw it as a safe haven from the complications of the present.

From 1968 to 2000, Vietnam to Y2K, *Neighborhood* thrived on PBS, making it the station's longest-running series. Old episodes continue to air.

In 1998, Rogers received a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Emmys. He was bestowed with more than 30 honourary degrees, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom – the United States' highest civilian honour.

Rogers died Feb. 27, a weekday morning. Almost two decades ago, at the peak of the program's popularity, I would've been couched, entranced by some make-believe plot, marvelling at Handyman Negri's latest invention – a potato washer perhaps, or fixated on a Picture Picture film reel showing how toffee is made.

I used to sing "It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood," the tune Rogers began every episode with. I copied his every move, trading a jacket for a sweater from my bedroom closet – I didn't own any zippered cardigans in the '80s – trying to swap my sneakers for slippers. A tossed shoe caught then bobbled, a knot too tight to untie. I never choreographed it, timed it perfectly like Mister Rogers.

In my teens, Rogers became the butt of jokes. I remember the rumour that Mister Rogers had AIDS, a myth usurped a grade or two later by the gossip that the actor who played Paul Pfeiffer on *The Wonder Years* was Marilyn Manson. Rogers, ridiculed by acned adolescents, parodied by Eddie Murphy, was made all the more endearing. Mockery is perhaps the highest honour, the greatest example of ubiquity, anyone can achieve.

Joyce Millman, in a 1999 *Salon.com* article asked if parents had "outgrown the unambiguous lessons of the show – to love a child every day, to nurture self-esteem, to be there?"

I question whether or not we, as adults, have outgrown the lessons of the show – to be loved, to remember our worth is intrinsic and internal. I can't remember how often the simple message of Rogers – who always said, "I like you just the way you are" – has been muddled.

In an interview with CNN, Rogers said that children "all long to be lovable, and capable of loving." The tether gets cut, and we drift away, but we still want and need that love.

The neighbourhood wasn't all safe, in the ignorant sense. It provided an environment to discuss things that made little sense in the world outside the television.

In one episode, a dead bird, discovered by Mr. McFeely during his Speedy Delivery, provided Rogers the opportunity to discuss death – "There are some things that are so hard to understand" – and tell his audience that it's okay to explore their feelings.

"When I was a little boy I used to have so many why questions," he said. "I still do."

The holy trinity of my children's television icons has passed away: Mr. Dressup, the Friendly Giant, and now Mister Rogers, who reminded me two weeks ago to look back and miss whatever it was I loved about Some Place Else, the traffic light in Rogers' living room and the timid Daniel Striped Tiger.

In that episode about death, Mr. McFeely and Mister Rogers talked about the deceased bird in what, to me, seems to make more sense than any hackneyed meditation on mortality.

"It won't be able to fly again," McFeely said.

"Or eat anything," said Rogers.

"Or sing."

UVic actor Kate Braidwood is one theatre buff to keep an eye on

by Katrina Sark

Amongst the potential stars of tomorrow about to be unleashed by UVic's Phoenix Theatre is Kate Braidwood. Now in her final year at UVic, Braidwood recently appeared in the title role of the Phoenix's *Rappaccini's Daughter*, performing several song-and-dance numbers. Her previous roles include little Louise in *The Imaginary Invalid*, Kari in *Peer Gynt*, Pantalone in *Turandot*, and Charon in *Frogs*. Braidwood's work at the Phoenix has influenced her on many levels.

"An absolute major part of the Phoenix experience has to do with who you're surrounded by," says Braidwood, "because it is such a tightly knit community. In my acting class, there are 10 of us. We spend essentially every day together in class, sometimes afternoons for rehearsing class work. They have been a huge influence on me."

"I've learned so much from each of my classmates, as well as fellow acting students in other years that I've had the privilege of working with. They're a huge resource."

As for singing on stage, Braidwood has gained her experience from previous Phoenix productions.

"Just about every show I've done at the Phoenix has somehow involved music or singing. This is my first show with this much solo work," she says.

Braidwood acknowledges the dearth of good roles for women. The last couple of plays at the Phoenix featured many strong male characters and less prominent roles for female actors.

"This is an ongoing problem for female actors in general, I think. The problem is that there tends to be more female actors than male actors (at the Phoenix), but plays generally tend to have more male roles, and also sometimes stronger male roles," says Braidwood. "This isn't really the fault of the Phoenix, necessarily. I know it's an ongoing process for the Play Selection Committee to find plays that can accommodate the fact that we have more women in the program, but it's a very tricky struggle."

Braidwood is inspired by seeing theatre as well as creating it.

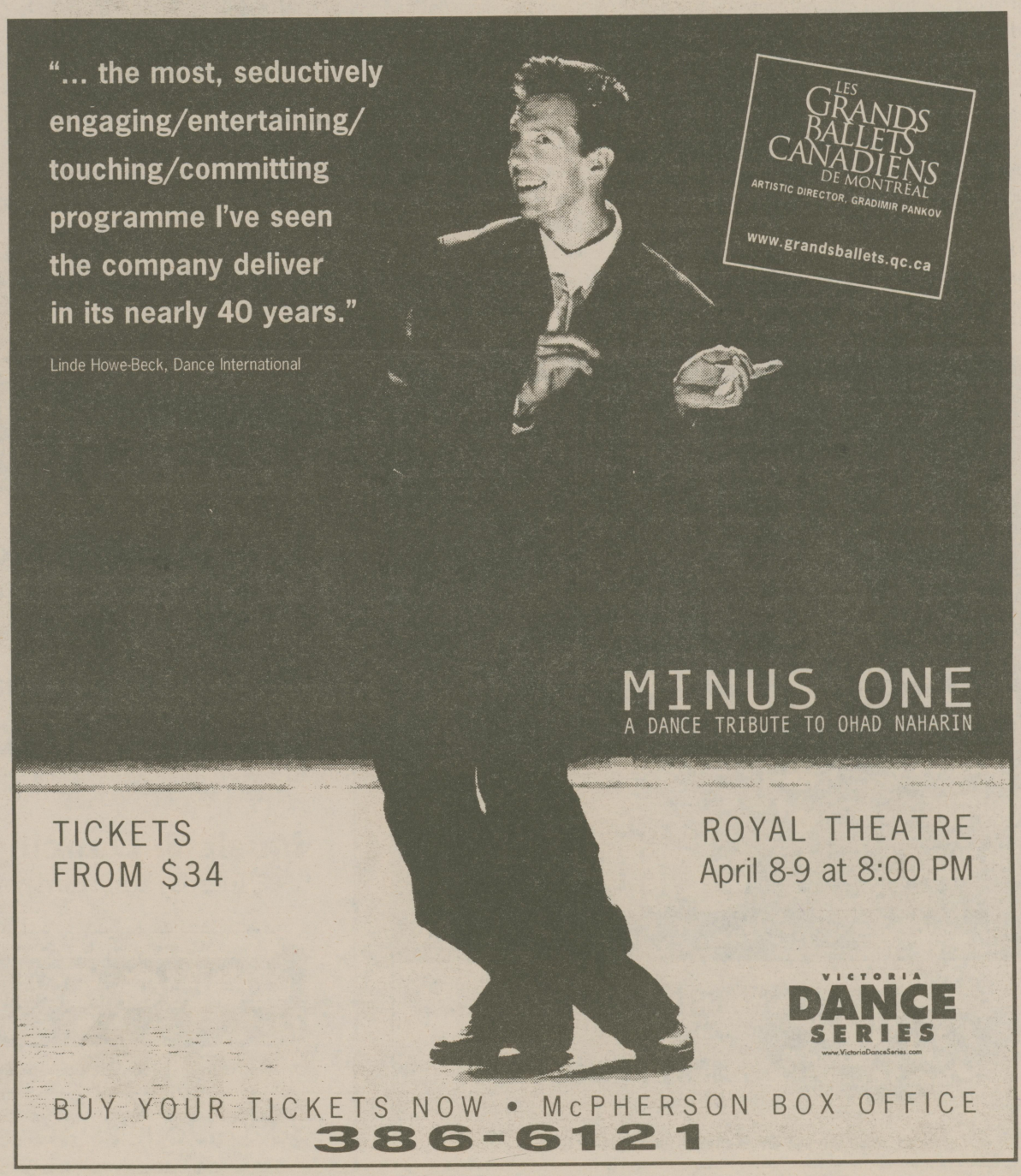
"I absolutely love being a part of theatre and being involved in it, but sometimes when you get caught up in the 'doing' of it you can forget that," she says. "But as soon as I see a piece of theatre, it takes my breath away and reminds me of how much I love it and why I'm doing it."

As for her plans and goals for the future, Braidwood is open to anything.

"Well, anyone can tell you that graduating with a theatre degree isn't really a guarantee of any kind," she says. "But I'm getting more and more excited to finish school and get out there."

photo by Stewart Wood

Braidwood in *Rappacini's Daughter*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Russian Percussion and the art of revolution with DJ Vadim

by Jonathan Rothman

"Are you there, Jon? Can you hear me?"

Most of the phone interview has been clear, but all of a sudden the signal's breaking up. Vadim Peare, aka DJ Vadim, ringmaster for the infamous Russian Percussion Tour, calls me from a tour bus "somewhere in Oklahoma."

The signal fades, Vadim's British accent (he moved to the UK from Russia at age 5), is intermittent, like the worst radio box at a fast-food drive-thru window.

Vadim does not feel like promoting his new album *USSR: The Art of Listening*, though it features guests like Gift of Gab (Blackalicious), UK beatbox innovator Killa Kela, and Yarah Bravo, a humorous, word-playful female poet/MC. Nor does he plug Jazz Fudge, his UK record label. Instead, he's commenting on the U.S. Federal Communications Commission's controversial (and in our shared opinion ridiculous) banning of "Your Revolution," which took place in 2001.

"Your Revolution" features poet Sarah Jones, rhyming in tribute to Gil Scott-Heron's classic "The Revolution Will Not Be Televised": "your revolution will not happen between these thighs . . . the real revolution ain't about booty size . . . and though we've lost Biggie Smalls your Notorious revolution will never allow you to lace no lyrical douche in my bush . . . your revolution will not be you smackin' it up, flippin' it, or rubbin' it down nor will it take you downtown or humpin' around . . . "

Jones' words, themselves comments on misogynist rap, got the track banned and the independent Portland station that played it fined $7000 US. The FCC, not realizing the song's context, remains unapologetic.

"Can you hear me Jon?" asks Vadim. The crackling stops, the signal clear again. I've already lost his signal once, so I hang on.

"I think it speaks quite openly about the censorship that exists on U.S. radio. She's saying she's not going to be any man's 'six-foot blowjob queen' – a positive female voice – and it gets shut down. When you consider the fact that the track was well-received in Australia, the UK, Ireland, Hong Kong, Singapore – basically every other English-speaking country in the world – it speaks volumes about the freedom of speech in the U.S.," says Vadim.

"Your Revolution" aired as part of Vadim's BBC special, a series called *Around the World in Eight Relays*. In 15-minute radio features, Vadim showcased seven instruments from around the world, including Indian violins, marimbas from Mozambique, and the Japanese shakahachi flute, an "ancient spiritual instrument." He added the global sounds to his own for the project, which aired on the BBC in November 2001.

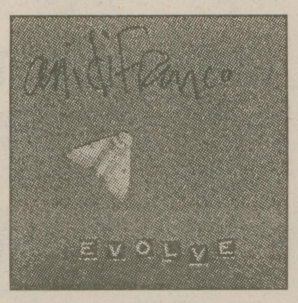
"I'd be the eighth element," he says. "It kick-started my interest in using lots of strange musical instruments. I like violins, cellos, and flute, but I also like African and Indian percussion, and Middle Eastern sounds. Good music is good music regardless of genre."

photo submitted

An activist with a plan: Vadim works up a sweat.

On *USSR: The Art of Listening*, Vadim's eclecticism reigns – dazzling scratchwork, dancehall sounds and looped guitars, and obscure samples layer overtop thick hip-hop backbeats. Yarah Bravo's wordplay, featured on tracks "The Pacifist" (a kind of sequel to "Your Revolution") and "She Who Is Tested," will join Vadim's beat-juggling tactics (and World DMC champ DJ First Rate) onstage, when the Russian Percussion tour hits Victoria's Lucky Bar March 19.

Ani throws fans another curveball with *Evolve*



Ani DiFranco
Evolve
Righteous Babe Records

by Sarah Petrescu

In 1994, two seminal discoveries sent me into new throes of personal freedom: driving and Ani DiFranco. The former I sought fervently and the latter found me.

The only catch to borrowing my mom's new Tempo was to not "mess" with anything (i.e. the tape deck). That being understood, the only soundtrack to my small-town nights of cruising the logging roads and dead streets of the Sunshine Coast were the radio or Mom's tape.

Always the last resort, Mom's tape happened to be Ani D's *Puddle Dive* – fresh from the trunk of the 19-year-old Buffalo native's touring jalopy. Apparently, DiFranco's recent show for a sparse crowd at the Gumboot Café had impressed Mom's friend enough to buy her a tape and urge her to "Get Sarah to listen to it, she'll love it."

Considering my tastes at the time – the Pixies, the Cure, Violent Femmes and Bad Religion – I didn't think DiFranco much more than a folkie spaz monopolizing my nights with the car. It took a deader-than-usual Friday night, a full moon by the breakwater and a few joints to warm me up to her.

In a serendipitous moment, verging on the acceptance of absolute boredom and pure meditation, DiFranco's spoken word piece "My IQ" came through the speakers. Like an anthem to the clichéd angst of my youth, "My IQ" expressed a tongue-in-cheek rebellion absent in any music I had listened to. More importantly, it was by a woman – not much older than myself – who seemed to revel in the awkward complexities of femaleness and had balls enough to be downright raucous. I was hooked.

DiFranco's raw and wise music caught on. In the nine years since *Puddle Dive*, she has gone from an unknown folk-singer selling tapes out of her car to one of the most outspoken and celebrated D.I.Y. feminist folk/pop stars ever.

At 32, she has 15 full-length albums to her name, all released on her own independent label, Righteous Babe Records. She has produced albums for various artists including Bitch, Animal, Utah Philips and Dan Bern, and has had her own songs covered by the likes of Prince, Bruce Cockburn and Chuck D.

DiFranco doesn't separate the political and the personal. Her music is confessional and sometimes uncomfortable, but always exploratory. She doesn't shy away from putting herself on the line or from punctuating her own image with a paradox.

Perhaps this is why it always takes me awhile to warm up to a new Ani album. Just when her new "thing" has started to grow on me, she throws a curveball. She's folk, she's rock, she's soul, she's funk, she's angry, she's in love, she's a paper doll, she's a cartoon... and the list goes on.

Some find the reincarnations of Ani disturbing – as if she's betrayed them by "changing." I have mixed feelings. I don't like everything she does. But, I always respect her for doing it.

Evolve is a prime example of DiFranco's tireless commitment to challenging herself as both artist and woman. It'd be a stretch to declare the album a breakthrough for DiFranco (it might be more aptly named Gestate), yet it reveals the process in which she eschews her own equillibrium between her lyrics and her music.

photo by Eric Frick

DiFranco's more recent albums have explored a variety of musical styles and exposed her growth and talent as a guitar player and singer. With the additon of a horn section and a jazz-infused style, *Evolve* aims to be one of the most instrumentally driven of DiFranco's albums.

However, combined with DiFranco's pungent lyrics, the overall effect of *Evolve* is occasionally too overwhelming, almost cacophonic.

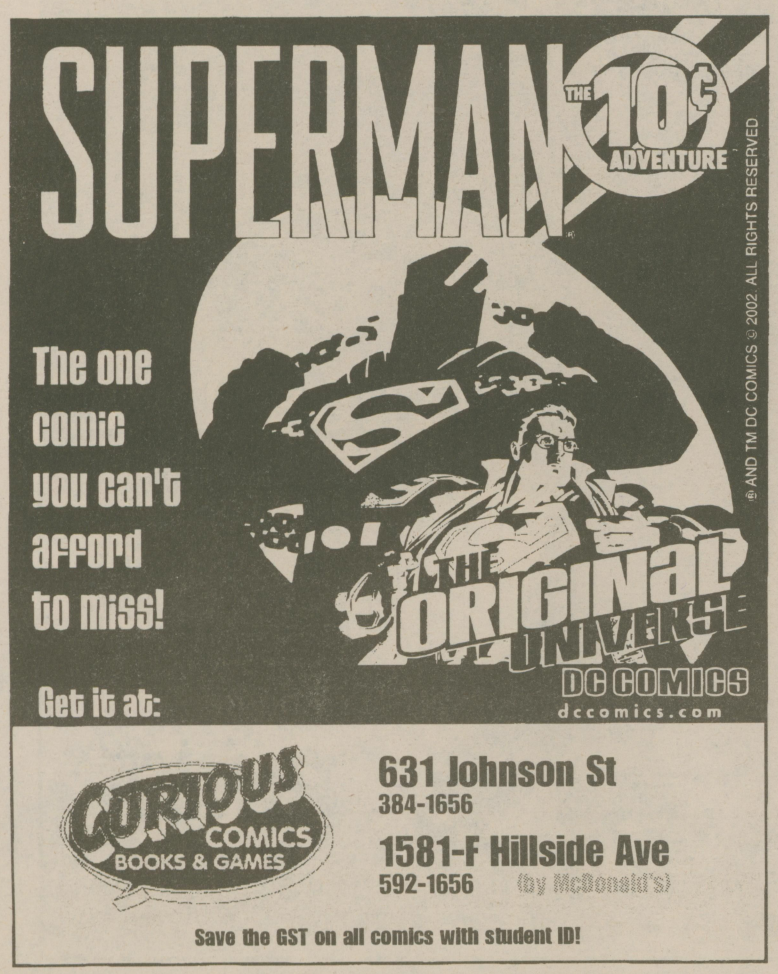
Nevertheless, this "blending" works more often than it doesn't.

Revered for her clever narratives, DiFranco gets a little abstract on *Evolve*. This works on such tracks as "o my, my," a sensual call to love ("If we let our love/ off of its leash/ do you fear, like I fear/ how fierce it would be?"). But the approach falls short on tracks like "Slide" ("My pussy is a tractor/ and this is a tractor pull").

There always seems to be one track on an Ani album that stands out as ridiculously brilliant. On *Evolve*, this is "Serpentine." Prefaced by haunting, chewed guitar, the politically driven gut-spilling is both musically and literally chilling.

The song "Welcome to" ends the album on a frayed edge, reflective of the cyclical nature of each human's life.

Evolve is sure to whet appetites. DiFranco challenges herself and in doing so challenges her audience. *Evolve* hits stores this week.



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The Fisher King – last of the folk troubadors?

by Jeff Andrew

The resemblance is strong. I catch it even before he starts playing: a rail-thin highway ghost in corduroys and a ripped t-shirt, with scruffy dark hair tucked under a weathered felt cap. He stands alone before a microphone on a dark stage, long arms stretching around an acoustic guitar. There's a harmonica in a wire frame strung around his neck.

"No shit," I think. "It's Bob Dylan."

Of course it isn't, and I'll soon regret making the comparison. Really it's Jeremy Fisher, a talented young folk musician and accomplished busker who does his touring the old-fashioned way: by bicycle.

Last year Fisher and his wife Jill, who handles booking for his shows, set off on "One Less Tourbus," an epic 7600km cycling tour that took them from Seattle to Halifax.

"It was awesome," says Fisher. "There's nothing like it – living in a tent, waking up with the sun. You go through so many towns, meet people, have adventures. It's hard to stop."

Originally from Hamilton, ON, Fisher learned his trade busking in Seattle, where veteran street musicians turned him on to the simple, raw beauty of folk music. The storytelling traditions of Depression-era heroes like Woody Guthrie and Pete Seeger inspired his own songwriting, and he found himself connecting with listeners on a whole new level.

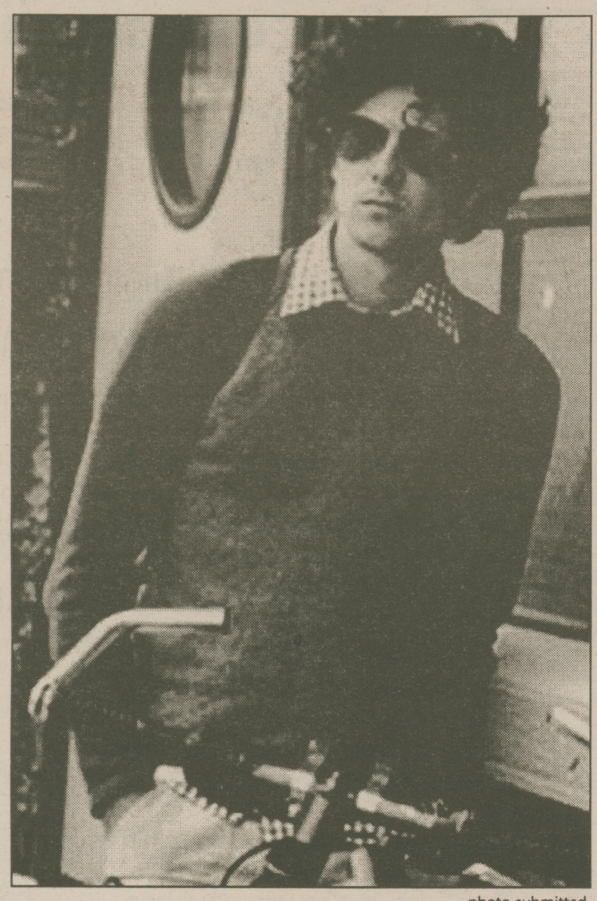

photo submitted

Jeremy Fisher: a true Rennaissance man...on a bike.

"I think people identify with it because it's storytelling," says Fisher. "It's more on layman's terms than rock-star terms."

Fisher stomps the floor with his foot when he plays, keeping time. Just like old times, when blues players traveled the country by foot, rail and thumb, scratching out a living on streetcorners and in juke joints. Today, playing songs with no more than a guitar, a harmonica and a bottleneck slide, Fisher says he finds the same power and honesty in street performance.

"Busking is the least pretentious thing I've ever done," says Fisher. "I don't have to promote it; I don't even have to play if I don't want to. It's a great way to meet people – some of the best musicians, and some of my best friends, are people I met while playing on the streets."

One of those people was Laura Veirs. A fellow folkie signed to the British label Bella Union, she appears on Fisher's debut album *Back Porch Spirituals*. It's a great album, beautifully unproduced, with an honest, dirt-floor country feel to the songs. The ragged harmonies between Fisher and Veirs are just some of the many highlights.

"Laura's great," says Fisher. "She has a really fresh perspective on old-timey music."

Timeless is more like it. There's an eerie familiarity to this music, like walking through an old forest where you ran as a kid. I remember feeling it in high school when I first picked up a guitar, and later when I discovered country musicians like Johnny Cash and Emmylou Harris.

Fisher resonates with me in the same way. His voice is powerful, like an old field holler, and his songs give me the same chills I used to get listening to early Dylan albums.

I mention this to him after the show. He thanks me graciously and gives me a copy of *Back Porch Spirituals*. Listening to it on the way home, I notice (with some embarrassment) that track nine is a tune called "Song For Robert Zimmerman." It's Fisher's ode to his relationship with the man the world knows as Bob Dylan.

"I hear old ladies whisper when they pass me on the street/Looks like a young Robert Zimmerman in 1963," sings Fisher.

Okay, so I'm not the first one to make the comparison. Fisher is a unique talent, with a rare commitment to the troubadour lifestyle. After all, how many times has Bob Dylan biked across North America? According to Fisher, cycling is a perfect way to break the monotonous grind of touring.

"At first, I wanted to prove bicycles could keep up, that you could keep up by slowing down," he says. "Eventually, I realized it was just about slowing down. Take time, live one show to the next. You don't need to make much money, or spend much either. A week out there becomes like a year."

Jeremy and Jill's six-month odyssey also helped advance the cause of cycling worldwide. Fisher donated a percentage of his CD sales to the Tour Des Femmes, a fund-raising program to buy bicycles for schoolgirls in Ghana.

"Here it's seen as a sacrifice. People give up their cars to ride a bike. But in Africa they don't even have enough bikes! And cars, forget about it. Some of these girls have to ride 10 or 20 miles a day on one-speed bicycles to get to school."

Jeremy Fisher plays March 14 at the Spiral Café (418 Craigflower) and March 15 at the Brentwood Bay Folk Club (Brentwood Bay United Church).

The '80s music geek's wet dream: An interview with Dave Wakeling

by Cam Walter

"You're my mirror in the bathroom." Those words, which opened and closed the Dave Wakeling show at Legend's on Friday night, still reverberate through this '80s music geek's head.

The ska classic "Mirror In The Bathroom," opened the show with the same fury that inspired its writing more than 23 years ago.

Four hours prior to show time, I met with Wakeling, the lead singer of The English Beat, one of the founding groups of the modern ska movement. As an '80s music geek, this was big. No, huge.

I am a self-professed '80s New Wave/Post Punk geek, something I attribute to my high school musical search for something more meaningful than Puff Daddy and Blink 182.

Wakeling brought me up to his hotel room, and with Wolf Blitzer and the American propaganda machine blaring from the TV, the singer who once stole Billy Idol's microphone opened up about music and politics.

"A lot of the stuff in the mid-'70s just seemed to be bands named after the cities where they came from, singing about being on the road," said Wakeling. "It just had no connection to me. Then punk came out, and suddenly everything was real again. That was really the introduction for us."

An introduction to a burgeoning new scene started with the Specials, the ska revival scene and the 2-Tone era.

"From 1979 to about 1982, there was this glorious period that I was proud to have been a part of," said Wakeling. "Lots of interesting music that didn't sound like anything else."

The 2-Tone Era is particularly significant because of the racial precedents it set in the face of growing numbers of skinhead fans. Bands such as the English Beat and the Specials were multi-racial in composition, something that hadn't really been accomplished in ska music before. This positive attitude and response has obviously become a part of the entire scene, from lyrical content to audience response, as the vibe at Friday's English Beat show was extremely happy, peaceful and energetic.

"That was the charm of 2-Tone," Wakeling recalled. "If you could contain that part (racism) of it, then that bad energy would go elsewhere. Then everyone would have a good dance – it was empowering."

Empowering indeed. By the end of the performance, sweat pouring down his face, Wakeling looked out upon the crowd and smiled. He had made such a connection with the crowd, and sent them into such an absolute frenzy with the energy of the English Beat repertoire, that you could see the feeling of satisfaction on his grinning face as he hoisted a beer, laughed, and said good night.

photo by Cam Walter

Dave Wakeling proves he's more wail than croon.

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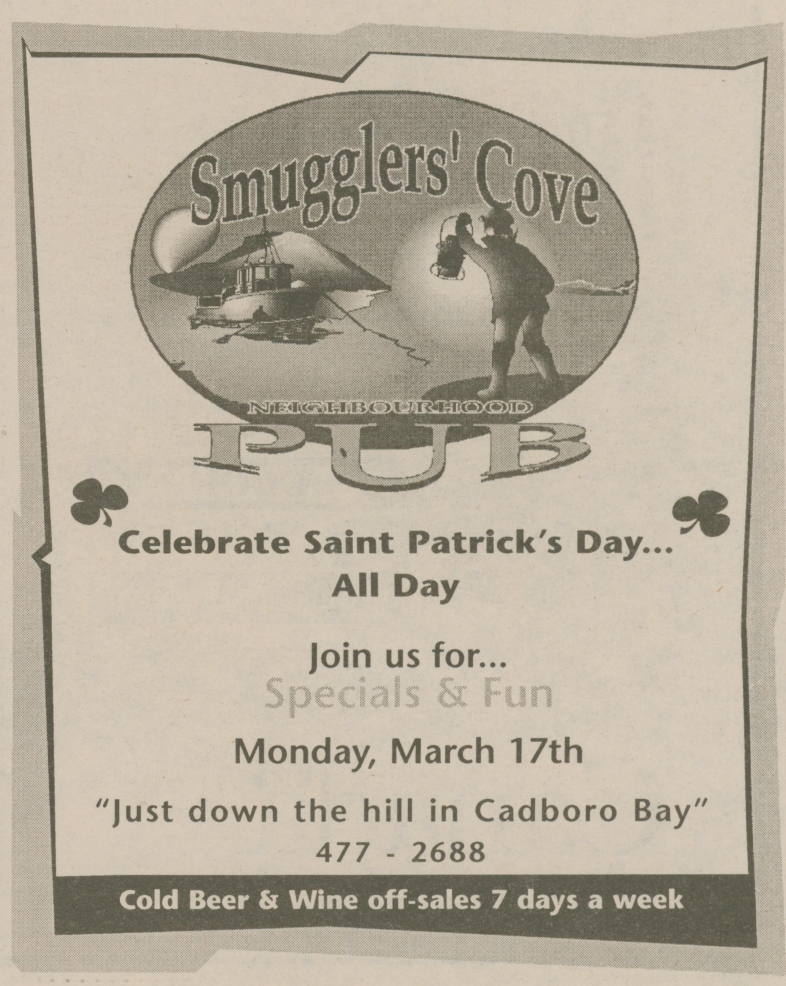

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Vikes win! Vikes win! Vikes win!

by Mark Samcoe

The media loves to use terms like "upset," "surprise" and "Cinderella story" when describing a championship victory by a team they hadn't considered a serious contender.

The Vikes' 60-51 drubbing of the Winnipeg Wesmen at the CIS women's basketball championship on Monday at Hamilton's McMaster University has been muzzled with endless underdog terminology. Their performance at last weekend's nationals proves they should never have been taken for granted. They're the real deal. If you asked head coach Brian Cheng, he'd tell you nothing is improbable or impossible when it comes to his team.

"The sky's the limit for us," Cheng said prior to the Vikes departure for Hamilton. "We have a very good opportunity to win the whole thing."

It's precisely this attitude, one that looks at every game with a no-place-to-go-but-up optimism, that led the team to stun pundits and the opposition with a commanding trio of wins to capture the Bronze Baby.

The Vikes' victory was anything but a foregone conclusion. "Favorite" didn't seem to apply to a squad who showed their weak side in the Canada West quarterfinals with a listless 63-36 loss to Regina, and a narrowly nabbed tournament seed following a loss to the same Wesmen team in the Canada West Final Four and a one-point victory over Calgary.

One look at the Vikes' record last season, nine wins and 16 losses, and the internal conflict on the team – good luck getting anyone to dish any dirt – and it's understandable that the Vikes would be overlooked as a title threat in the company of defending champs Simon Fraser, runners-up Laval and the Wesmen, last season's bronze medallists

As any farmer or greenthumb will tell you, seeding is crucial. It may have been a blessing for the Vikes to have been slotted sixth. For one, it assured them of not having to play SFU – the nation's top team and 2-0 this season against UVic – on their side of the tournament bracket. It may have influenced their opponents to take them lightly, which seems unlikely, given that the Vikes were the in the middle of the top 10 nationally ranked teams all season and according to their RPI, one of the most difficult schedules of any team in the CIS.

Cheng expected to garner the sixth seed, just as he expected that "the best is yet to come," and in glossing over the ugly 16-point second half of their game against the Cougars, that weekend was "pretty much what [I] expected."

The Vikes began their ascent to the heavens Saturday night against third-seeded Memorial Sea-Hawks. From the opening tip, the Vikes took charge, jumping out to an early lead. Undeterred, the Sea-Hawks charged back, and went into the locker room at half-time with a one-point lead following an 11-4 run.

Fifth-year guard Lindsay Anderson, named a CIS 2nd team All-Star at Friday night's awards banquet, led UVic's assault in the second half with 16 of her 21 points. Dani Everitt contributed 18, going three-for-three from behind the arc, while rookie upstart Beckie MacDonald sank three threes from own-town. The Sea-Hawks, in what seemed to be a reoccurring tournament plot, were led by a major scoring threat, Jenine Browne – who almost single-handedly kept her team in the game – but wasn't enough. In the end, the Vikes multi-faceted attack, which included Krystal O'Byrne's ferociousness on the boards and described by Vikes play-by-play announcer Jordan Cunningham as "the glue that held the team together," overmatched Memorial's less dynamic game.

Pete Lewis, the Vikes public relations coordinator and colour commentator on CFUV, was delighted by the Vikes' opening night result. "It was hard to sit down in the last few minutes," he said.

In the Sunday night semifinal, the Vikes met the second-ranked Laval Rouge et Or, shook their hands, then slapped them silly. UVic leaped to a 15-0 lead. Laval didn't score until almost eight minutes into the first half, after which the Vikes held a commanding 31-15 lead. It got downright ugly in the second half as the Vikes opened up a 32-point lead. Laval managed only two points in the final 10 minutes. Four Vikes scored double-digits in what was possibly the team's most complete game of the season – a true pillaging.

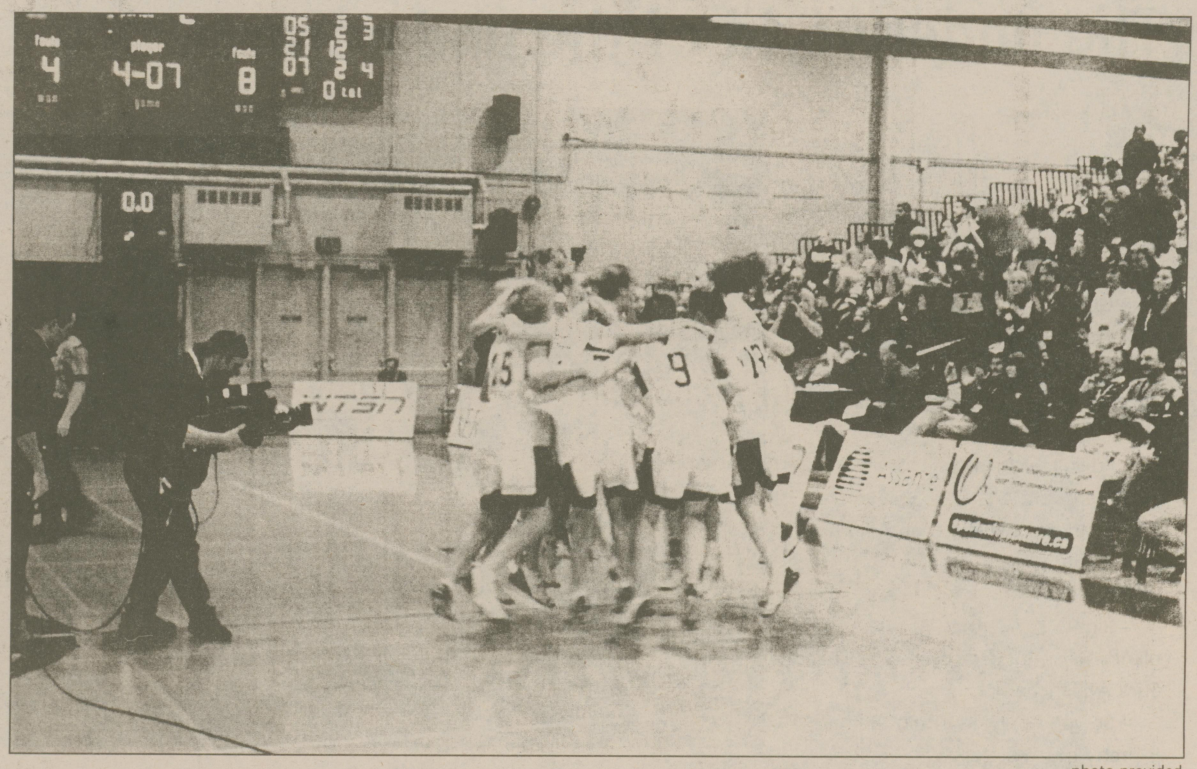

photo provided

The Vikes celebrate their national title victory over the Winnipeg Wesmen, Monday night at McMaster University.

Over 3,000 fans packed McMaster's Burridge Gymnasium Monday night for the final match between Victoria and Winnipeg. The Wesmen held a slight edge in their season's meetings – a series split in November and a Winnipeg win at the CanWest Final Four.

The Vikes grabbed a tiny lead early, but the 'Peg responded, taking their own occasional advantage on the scoreboard, but neither team was able to take control. The 31-31 half-time tally illustrated the balance between the two Canada West foes.

Neither team returned from the break with a swagger in their step, and the game remained tight. With 8:40 to play Winnipeg nailed a trey to take a 47-44 lead. But as with each time it appeared Winnipeg might run away with the game, given their shot accuracy, and Vikes inability to score consistently, UVic fought back. With 3:37 remaining on the clock, both teams were deadlocked 51-51, and by all appearances it appeared the game would come down to a final possession.

The turning point was a Winnipeg time violation, forced by the suddenly stifling Vikes defense, which created a key turnover. The Vikes scored on the ensuing possession and never looked back. The Wesmen went cold in the dying minutes, while the Vikes built a decisive lead.

As time ran out, Lindsay Anderson, who posted 18 points and seven boards, dribbled the ball so hard it bounced to head-height, and the Vikes' bench, on the edge of the pine as the realization of victory took hold, erupted, bouncing onto the court to join their screaming teammates.

Call it a dream season for the Vikes. Anderson, named the championship MVP, capped her varsity career with her third national championship, Dani Everett, who carried the Vikes through their offensive lulls all season was a key addition. Krystal O'Byrne and Jania Mynott, who both posted double-doubles in the final, emerged as the dominant low-post scorers Cheng sought, and Cheng himself came into his own as the architect of the Vikes' defensive mastery, with his first national title as head coach.

With files from Pete Lewis, Michael Belanger and Iain McLetchie.

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Let there be lightning

The underworld of the underarm

by Mark Samcoe

photo by Mark Samcoe

Gillette Soft & Dri is strong and beautiful, just like you. It is sensitive and nurturing and premenstrual, and likes watching Meg Ryan films, and has two cats, and hangs wash on the line, and fantasizes about D'Angelo. It is also clear and available in gel form, just like you.

Scenario 1:

– You're skiing out of bounds, the backside of some mountain.

– I am? Which mountain?

– Doesn't matter.

– I'm good, right. Am I good?

– That doesn't matter either. You're covered by an avalanche, you can't breathe.

– I'd call for help. Say, "Send in the Saint Bernards."

– In an avalanche, no one can hear you scream.

– I'm doomed.

– Right. It's like that for sweat glands when they're covered by Speed Stick Avalanche.

– So you're saying a Saint Bernard is pretty much useless –

– Right.

– Because it won't be able to find the scent.

– Bingo.

– Oh man, sales through the roof.

– Raise the roof. Come on. With your hands. Yeah, you got it.

– So, what does Avalanche smell like?

– Who the hell cares? We'll add some chemical to Cyclone – that shit smells like Tibetan musk or something. No one will know any different.

– Because it doesn't matter!

– Booya.

Scenario 2:

– Okay, Degree has Exhileration. And, though I'm still 100 per cent behind Speed Stick, I owe them my Benz and my Big Berthas, that Exhileration, it had me flying.

– Get out.

– No, I'm telling you, I was soaring. I've never been happier.

– Leave. Now.

– Does a Concorde soar? Or does it zoom. Do they still make Concordes? Well, anyways, I was zooming.

– I want your desk emptied by quitting time. I'll send a severance package so you can fuel your car.

– You're not listening to me. We can do better. I came crashing down. I'm telling you, it peaks too early. But I know how to solve it.

– You traitor.

– Look, if lightning strikes you on the fifth green at Augusta, just as you're pulling a seven iron out of your bag – you're bitching to your caddie, saying, "No Abe, I think with my lie in the rough here I'd be better off with a high iron," and you'll be sipping your Fresca and Bam! 900 volts or whatever course through you, you'll thank me. What I've come up with to counter Exhileration would've diverted that electrical energy, because it's depolarizing. I can do that. I'm that good.

– What?

– Fresca. I know, you can't buy that in Georgia anymore, but you'll find a way. You always do, you cunning sonofa –

– No, you said lightning.

– Bitch.

– Lightning it is. Sure, from a literal perspective, the armpits, the whole fucking human body couldn't withstand lightning, but it's electrifying. Oh, yeah. And you'd think it would be made to smell like charred flesh, which I've been told is a bit like chicken. That's fine. We'll up the aluminum content.

Yeah, it is kind of a good idea. Lightning bolts across the label. Commercials with sheet lightning illuminating fast cars and a steamy date at the drive-in. Yeah, I like that. That's really good.

– So, I don't have to go.

– No, you're still fired.

Scenario 3:

– It runs.

– I know. We've got to capitalize on that.

– No one wants running.

– What sort of fruit is there in sangria?

– I don't know. Cranberries? Oranges. I've had it with oranges.

– So we make it orange scented and it's like sangria. We'll do well with the Spring Break set.

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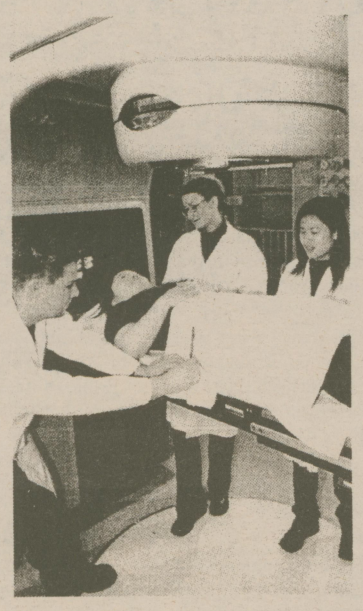

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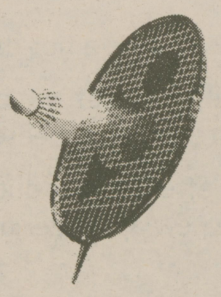

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Go the distance

Vikes vie for gold

by Ruth Knoop

Eight members of the Vikes middle-distance team will make the cross-country trip to Windsor to compete in the CIS Indoor Track Championships this weekend.

The Vikes are still recuperating from a less-than-satisfactory placing at the Canada West Championships held two weekends ago at the University of Alberta.

The team had high hopes heading into the tournament, but it was not to be.

"For the men's 1000m we were looking at a 1,2,3 finish," said head coach Brent Fougner, "but it didn't happen."

Fougner said the Edmonton track factored heavily in the team's performance.

"We are not used to running on that track," he said. "We train outdoors here on a 400m track, and the smaller indoor 200m track can be hard to manoeuvre."

The Canada West Championship was not a complete bust for the team though, as both the men's and women's 4x800m relay teams advanced to the nationals.

The men's team, consisting of Craig Babiuk, Josh Henderson, Glenn Saqui and Scott Kennedy finished their event in first place with a time of 7:44. Heather Burley, Nancy Fedoruk, Christina Heisterman and Leah Burley did the women proud as they finished in a time of 9:32.52 to place third.

In the individual races, both Babiuk and Saqui qualified in the 1000m. Babiuk finished second in the race with a time of 2:30.99 seconds, with Saqui close on his heels finishing third at 2:31.62.

"I was unhappy with my performance in the 1500m," said Babiuk who failed to medal, finishing seventh. "I was satisfied with the 1000m and nothing less than happy with our performance in the 4 x 800m."

Josh Henderson – who Fougner has high hopes for in Windsor – also had a great race, finishing fourth in the 600m.

"If he makes it to the finals, and has a good race, he should medal," said Fougner.

Heather Goodfellow, the only member of the women's team to qualify for an individual event, was the star of the Vikes' CanWest showing – with a first-place time of 10:18.86 in the 3000m.

"Heather's performance was the best part," said Fougner, who's optimistic about the team's chances in Ontario.

"All the individual racers have a good chance at a medal. If they all run like they did at CanWest, then they should do well."

Babiuk shares that enthusiasm, hoping for "a medal position in the 1000m," and "nothing less than gold" in the relay event.

"We want to win," said Fougner. "Right now, the guys are ranked number one, and that's how they want to finish."

Sports Call

Pints, Penguins and the President

Iain McLetchie knows what the world needs now is St. Patrick

Dear Patrick:

Well, St. Paddy, it seems another year has gone by and, once again, the urge has struck to write you a wee note. You did some brilliant work in the past year, Patrick, because there's been plenty to enjoy in the sports world since we last chatted. That was some good craic last time around, wasn't it? So how 'bout raising a round of Guinness to the grand things in sport?

Cheers to the UVic Vikes for winning their ninth national title on Monday night. The lady ballers had a rough season last time around, and beat nothing but higher seeds all week long in Hamilton. Memorial (3rd seed), Laval (2nd), and Winnipeg (4th), felt the mighty wrath of the Vikes, who barely scratched their way into the national tournament two weeks ago by beating Calgary and earning the third, and final, Canada West berth. Fifth year standout Lindsay Anderson finished her career in fairytale fashion, winning it all and being named as the tournament MVP in the process. Dani Everitt was also named a tourney all-star. Huge kudos to coach Brian Cheng, who took a lot of flack during last season's shipwreck but would never admit it. His "Five for Forty" mantra on team defense took center stage during the tourney, as the Vikes demolished a vaunted Laval offence, holding the Quebec team to 30 points in the semifinal. Are you kidding me? Thirty points? Yeesh.

How about enjoying a pint of Harps Lager in honor of Mike Weir? Canada's greatest golfer had, to put it mildly, an unsettling season in 2002. You might say he couldn't chip it into the River Liffey from O'Connell Street Bridge, if you know what I'm saying, Paddy. Mike returned to his roots over the winter, including his patented pre-shot routine, and the results have been as astounding as the Rogaine Karl Malone's been using. He's won twice on tour already, leads the money list, and won a cool $500,000 extra for being the top finisher on the PGA tour's western swing. Tough life.

What about the great things going on in the NBA? Kobe Bryant scored 40 points in 10 straight games, an NBA record, while Michael Jordan shoots his age (41) one night and then drops 39 points in his final appearance at Madison Square Garden. Good stuff. Vince Carter scores 43 and the Raptors... oh, forget it. But I can't wait to see who wins the Lebron James sweepstakes.

All right, but it's not all roses in the sporting world, as Carter and the extinct dinos might attest to. However, seeing as you sent all those snakes packing from the Emerald Isle, you must have plenty of time on your hands to search for other vermin to chase from the earth. Now here's an idea for you: how about getting rid of some of these belly-slitherers from the sports world?

St. Bonaventure College, of NCAA Div-1 fame, elected to forgo their final two games of the season after the NCAA forced the team to forfeit six of their conference wins for using an academically ineligible player during those matches. The debacle resulted in the recent resignation of the college's president, who personally approved the player's grades and application to the school prior to the season, and has forced the athletic director and head coach to go on paid "administrative leave". Who the hell was in charge there, and how did they ever get to that position? I can understand young student-athletes thinking they made the right choice, but doesn't the basic job description of a coach and an athletic administrator include being a mentor to athletes under their care? Ouch.

How about the catastrophe being unveiled at Georgia, where coach Jim Harrick has been accused of forging grades, paying players' bills, and has been suspended by the school – a natural precursor to being fired. The team, ranked 21st in the latest poll, was a lock for an NCAA berth, but the university voluntarily decided to forfeit the season, and rightly so. Harrick's son, Jim Jr., taught a course entitled "Coaching Principles and Strategies of Basketball" that was nothing more than a sham wherein all 31 students registered in the course, including ten Georgia varsity athletes, were given A's. The problem was that none of the basketball players in the class did any work whatsoever. Now, you've got to feel horrible for the few athletes on the team, including three seniors, who have lost their last chance to play collegiate ball because of a selfish, win-at-all-costs coach. Did I mention Harrick made $700,000 this season? Hope that's a fair cost for shattering a bunch of dreams.

But, Paddy, can you please do something about the on-court thuggery of Ron Artest? He's a gifted basketball player who's a demon defensively, handles the ball well, and plays a very unselfish game. But why does he feel the need to toss around T.V. cameras after losses and get in the face of opponents any other time? Sure he's still young – 23 years old – but at what point does a dude mellow out a little bit? Please give him some of your patience and virtue.

And for the love of God, can you please convince Mario and the Penguins to hold on to at least a tiny bit of their talent? They've been shut out five times since February 6th, roughly when they traded Alexi Kovalev to the Rangers for a potato and two three-leaf clovers, and are still considering dumping Martin Straka and Aleksy Morozov, two of their last remaining NHL-level players. It's a sad sign of the times when a team in playoff contention - at least they were prior to the Kovalev firesale - considers selling off talent solely because they can't afford to hold onto it. You don't see those economics in the Irish Hurling League, do you Paddy?

On a similar note, thanks for convincing Craig Button and the Calgary Flames to hold on to Jarome Iginla. I like that guy.

Well, that's about it, old friend. Hope you don't drink too much green lager on your special day, and that you remember to cab home.

Thanks,

Iain

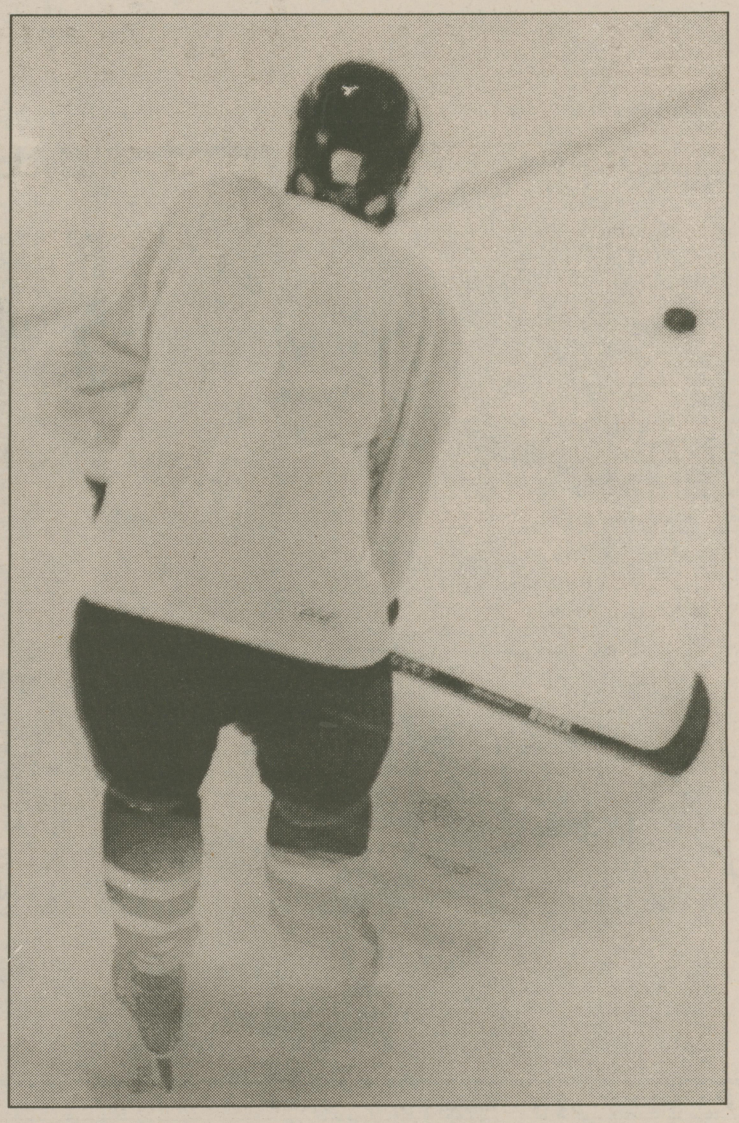

photo by Jenn Bowles

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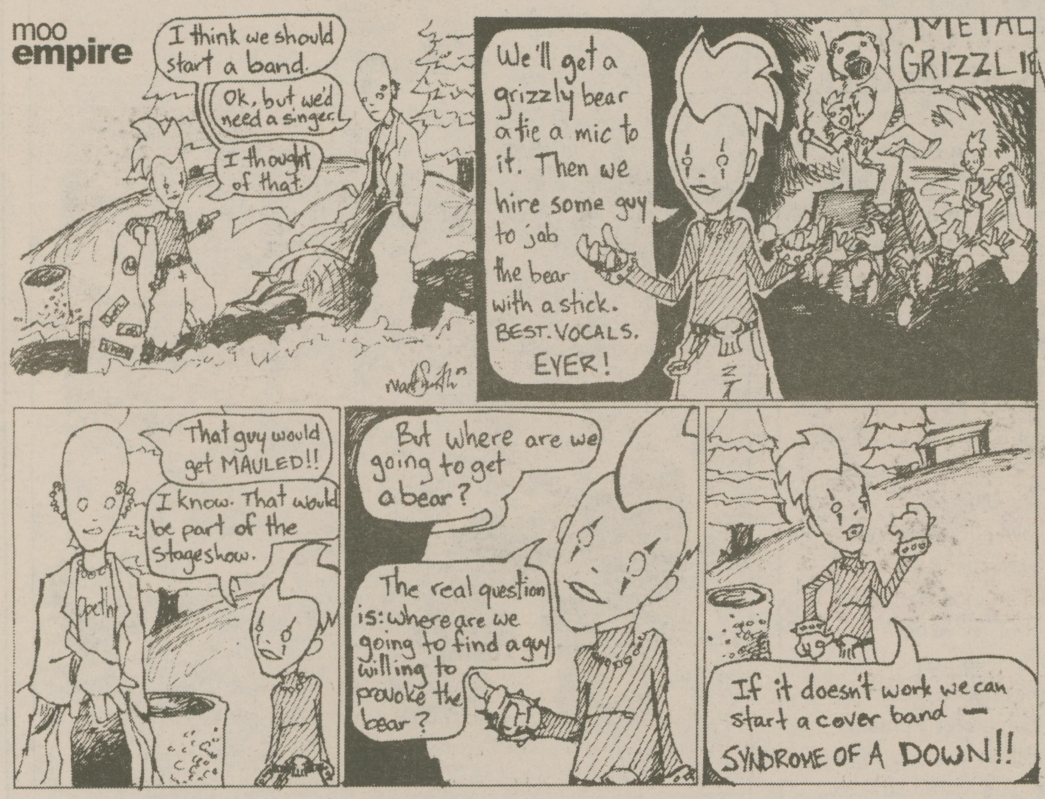
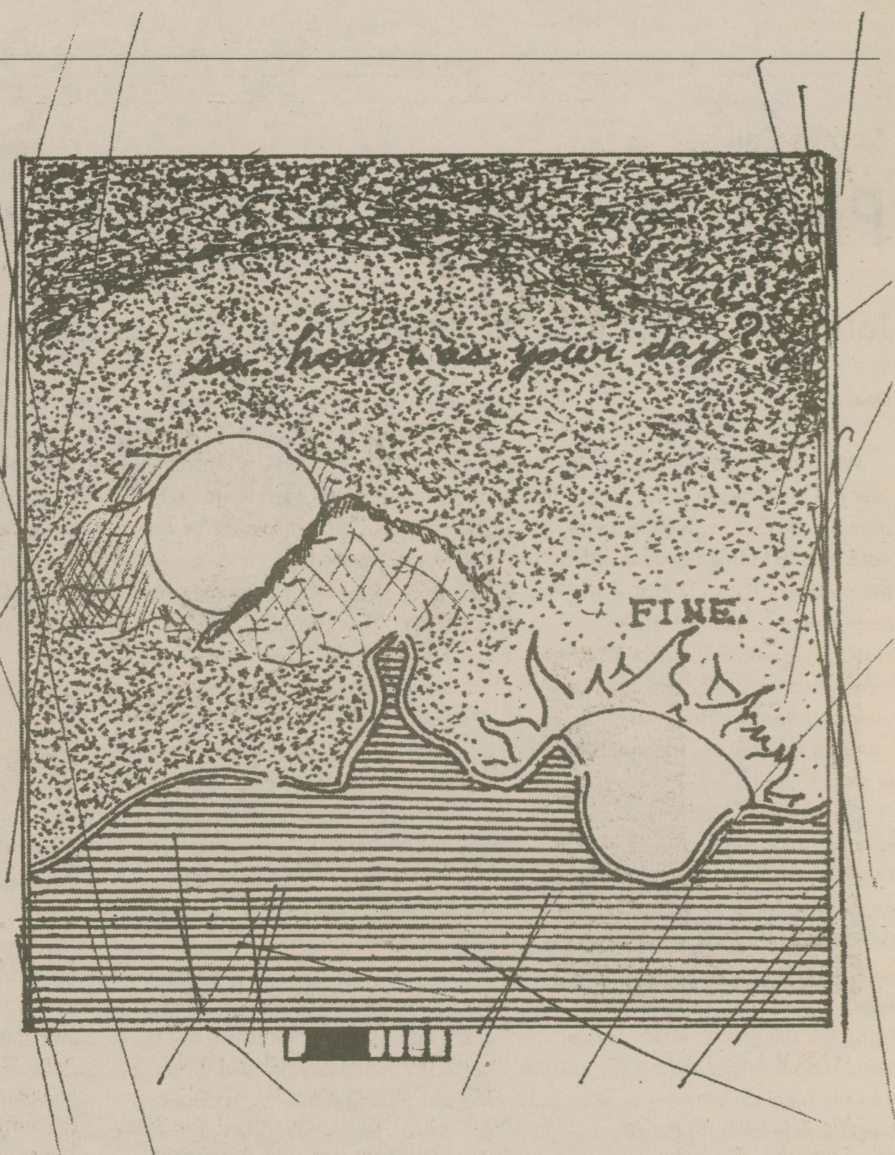
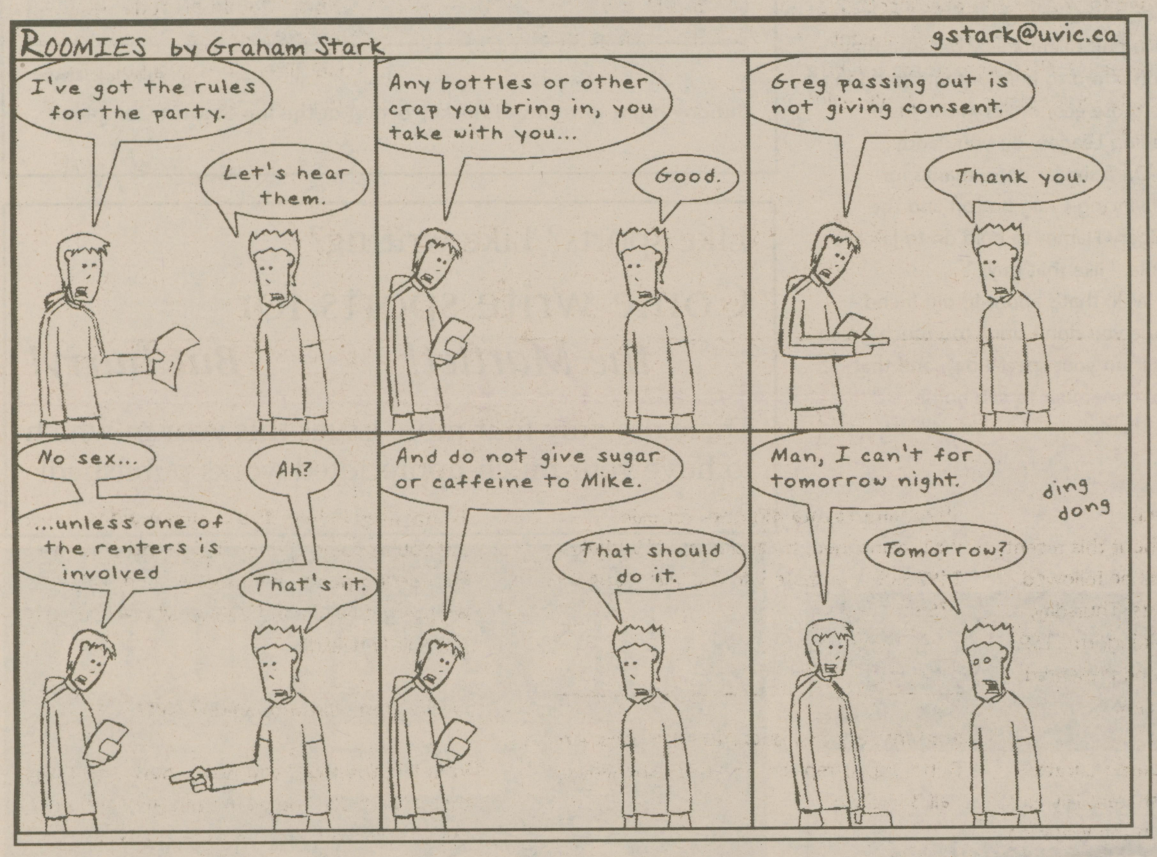
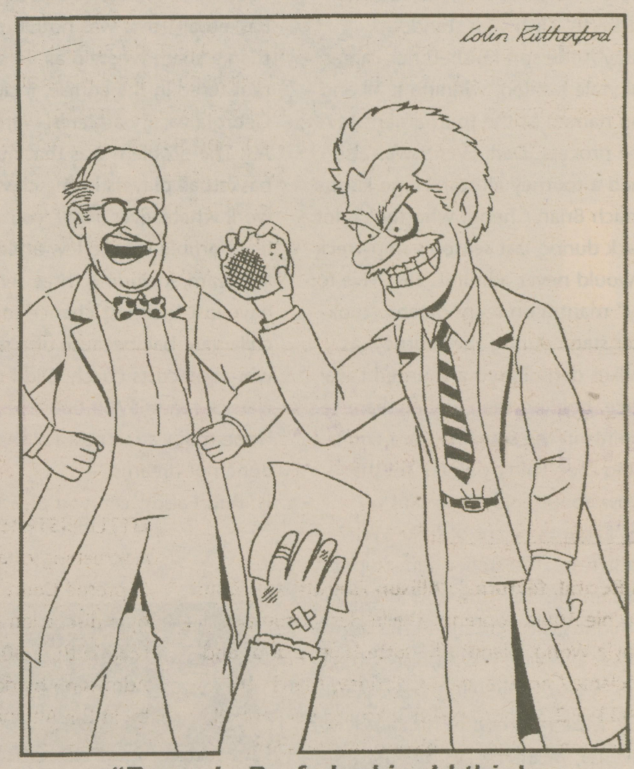
by Matt Smith & Peter Tucker (CUP)


moo
empire
I think we should start a band.
Ok, but we'd need a singer.
I thought of that.
We'll get a grizzly bear a tie a mic to it. Then we hire some guy to jab the bear with a stick. BEST. VOCALS. EVER!
METAL GRIZZLIES
That guy would get MAULED!!
I know. That would be part of the stageshow.
But where are we going to get a bear?
The real question is: where are we going to find a guy willing to provoke the bear?
If it doesn't work we can start a cover band — SYNDROME OF A DOWN!!




ROOMIES by Graham Stark
gstark@uvic.ca
I've got the rules for the party.
Let's hear them.
Any bottles or other crap you bring in, you take with you...
Good.
Greg passing out is not giving consent.
Thank you.
No sex...
...unless one of the renters is involved
Ah?
That's it.
And do not give sugar or caffeine to Mike.
That should do it.
Man, I can't for tomorrow night.
Tomorrow?
ding dong

by Alex Solunac



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on the spot

What do you miss most about high school?

Misty-eyed reminiscing led by Briony Smith, Vanessa Neuman and Dan Harder

Mary Conquest

Mary: My name is Mary Conquest. That's right – Conquest. And what I miss most about high school is that I didn't have to pay rent and buy groceries.

Judith and Smiler

Judith: *Nothing.*
Vanessa: Nothing? You don't miss anything about high school?
Judith: The savage classwork.
Smiler: Pot.
Dan: Oh, yeah, you never find that here.
Smiler: No, the pot culture.
Judith: You mean like, before class, recess, lunchtime and after school.
Smiler: We didn't go to school, like, for school. We went to school to go meet before we went to go smoke a joint. You didn't have to do homework or anything in grade nine. You just went to school, showed up, and somehow you passed.
Dan: And state your name, please.
Smiler: Smiler.
(*demented laughter ensues*)
Briony: It's his actual name. I met him on the bus once.

Mark Hundleby and Clinton Wong

Mark: My high school was just 10 minutes away from my house, whereas university is 40 minutes away from my house.
Clinton: I miss skipping class. We used to skip class to play soccer. We used to play soccer on a field right beside the classroom, so our teacher could see us playing. He didn't really care.

Alois Schonenberger

Briony: The hot 16-year-old girls?
Alois: (*wistfully*) Yeah… Well, at the time, the hot 16-year-old girls were a lot of fun. Not so much anymore. You'd have to talk to my roommate about that now.
Vanessa: Does your roommate read *the Martlet*?
Alois: Let's not go there.

Steve Querengesser

Steve: Not having to do my homework.
Vanessa: That seems to be a recurring theme. What's better about university?
Dan: You get to pay rent!
Briony: Do you miss hot 16-year-old girls?
Steve: I'm glad I don't miss those.
Briony: Good call, dude. That was a trick question.
Dan: Briony's really a hot 16-year-old girl in disguise.

Billboards

on campus

A Recital, featuring: Allison Arends, soprano; Nicole Annis, soprano; Sheila Harry, trumpet; Kayla Wong, piano; Charlotte Hale, piano; and Melanie Canrade, piano. Sunday, March 16, 2003 @ 2:30 p.m. Philip T. Young Recital Hall, McLaurin B, UVic. Admission by donation.

VISIONS OF THE WILD – A Digital Multi-Media Show. Photographer Dag Goering and award-winning author Maria Coffey present two extraordinary journeys by kayak: around Vancouver Island and down India's sacred Ganges River. Stunning photography, video and music.
Two shows: March 20th, April 3rd. David Lam Auditorium, UVic 7 p.m. Tickets at the door, or www.hiddenplaces.net/presentations.html

***SUBject Matter* Art Show. An exhibition of** multi-faculty artwork expressing academic interests. In the SUB Upper Lounge from Friday, March 7th to Monday, March 24th.

Career Forum: ***Be Cyber-savvy: Research Careers & Find Employment & Freelance Work On-line.*** March 13, 5:00 – 7:15 p.m. Pam Blackstone, Internet journalist. UVic Centre, Room A180. Admission at the door. $5 students and unemployed, $25 general. 721-8421.

Career Forum: ***Know Your Rights & Responsibilities in the Workplace.*** March 20, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. Tammy Wilson, employment standards officer, Ministry of Skills Development & Labour. UVic Centre, Room A180. Register on-line: www.stas.uvic.ca/careers

Armed With Understanding – An Interactive Lecture Series Preventing Crimes Against Humanity. Lessons from the Asia Pacific War (1931-1945), Cinecenta Auditorium, SUB. Featuring many international speakers on the subjects of human rights, biological warfare and the victims of war. Thurs., March 20, 12-6 p.m.

LITTLE SISTERS vs. BIG BROTHER. A screening of a documentary about this recent Supreme Court decision. Film will be followed by a discussion with special guests. Thursday, Mar. 20th, 6:30 p.m., Fraser Building, rm. 159. Admission by donation at the door. Presented by In the Alternative, Faculty of Law.

Engaging Culture, an art exhibition curated by Art 380 Curatorial Direction student Lily Ng will be held at the Main Gallery in the Visual Arts Bldg, March 16 – 23. Opening night March 20 at 7 p.m.

announcements

UVic Students of Colour Collective are holding an Annual General Meeting. All are welcome! March 19 at 6:00 p.m. in SUB B025. For more information contact Students of Colour Collective at 472-4697, socolour@uvic.ca

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hey you

Urs: Don't expect a need to talk, whatever your reasons. But I'm thinking it will be ok, so don't worry. – J.

To my firey haired, fire-crotch maiden: buck up! You're doing a splendid job, despite your floundering peons. It'll be over soon, and then we can get naked and be merry! (Well, maybe just a little naked).

Again? You want me again? Nate.

Well I'm skeptical. You were there and I was there. No really. You were from Amsterdam and not allowed to go to the store in Los Angeles by yourself, and your eyes twinkle when you say: "environmental law." Me, I'm the loser who enticed you to a better dinner than what's available in the res cafe, but lost your email. If this doesnt work I will resort to more drastic measures (eg. name calling). hehe.

Hey, Petey boy, when I said, "Don't call me anymore," I meant, "Come in." That's the way I do things. You better shape up, mister, or I'm really going to be pissed. Never talk to you again – Sarah.

To the hottest sports editor alive: Spin Cycle Fan is MIA. Dry your eyes, you saucy fellow. She's not the only stalker out there. I watched you work out at the gym this week, sweat dripping, muscles taut. I followed your Bronco down Quadra yesterday, a low-speed follow just like OJ. There's a Heisman Trophy up for grabs – can you score like The Juice? I'll be waiting for you to pull your Bronco into my driveway, curlytop. I hope you wear that Bob Seger T-shirt again soon. Rock and roll never forgets, and neither do I. Yours, Gymfan.

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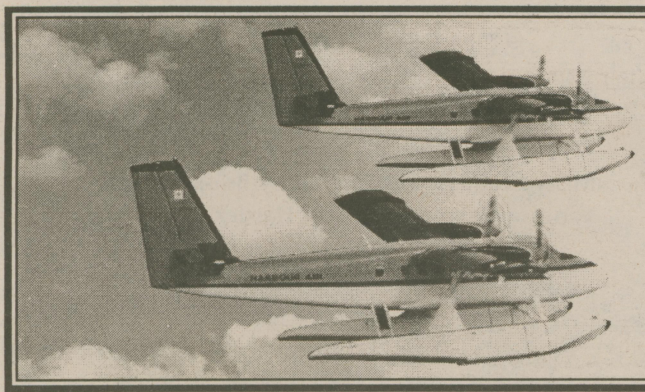

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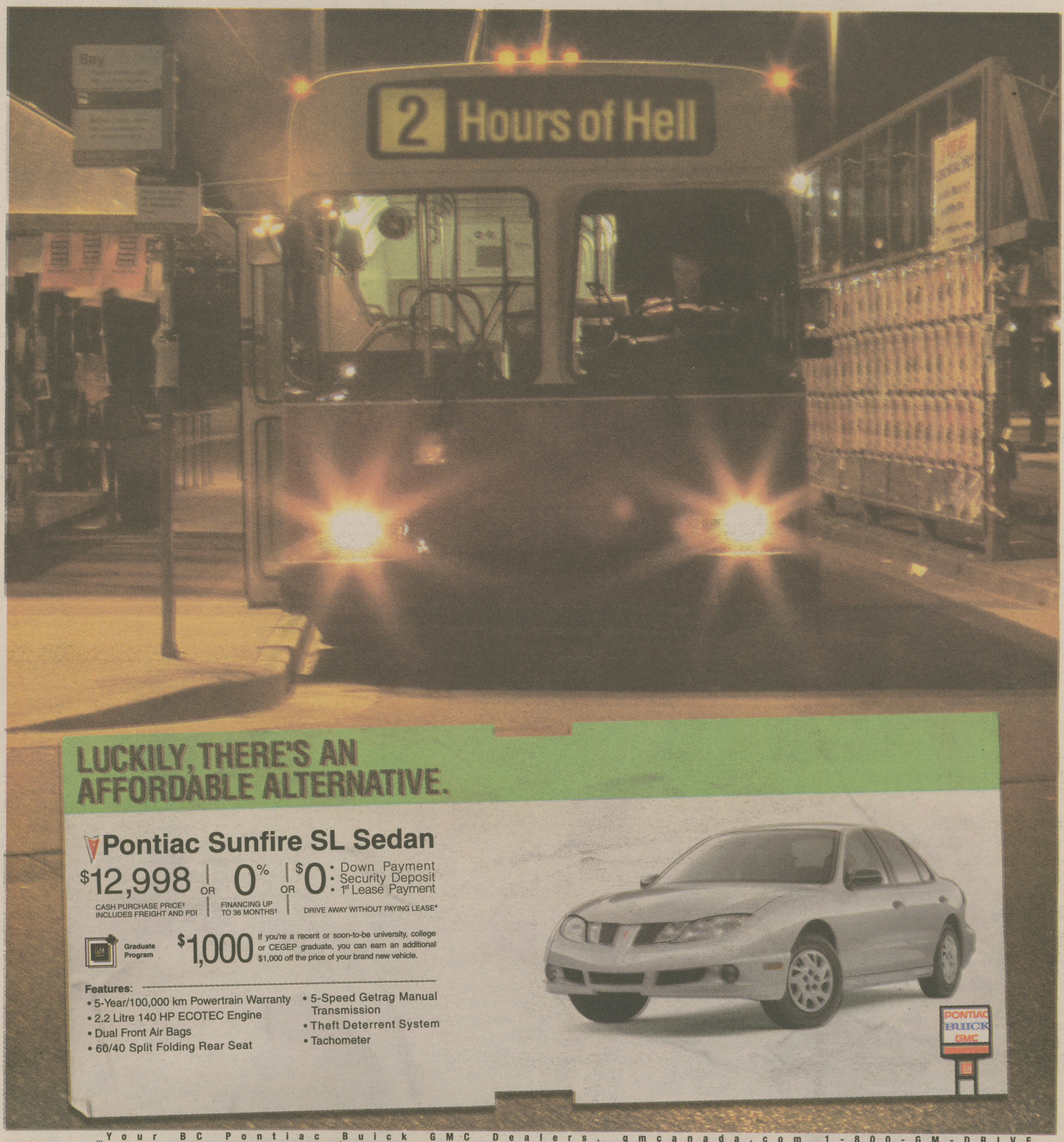

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